



Daily Report

Sub-Saharan Africa

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3 April 1991

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Chad

Military Court Established To Guarantee Security

AB3103105091 Ndjamenat Domestic Service in French
1900 GMT 28 Mar 91

[Communique issued by the Cabinet following a meeting in Ndjamenat on 28 March; read by Mahmat Saley Ahmat, minister of information, culture, and tourism—live or recorded]

[Text] At its 28 March session, the Cabinet examined three points on the agenda.

First, concerning the general secretariat of the government, the secretary general of the government briefed the Cabinet on the status of individuals' houses seized by the state under various regimes in 1973, 1976, and 1989. A commission will be set up to study each case to remunerate those cheated of their rights.

Second, concerning the Interior Ministry, the minister of state for interior provided important information on public security. Assaults, murders, thefts, and rapes are continually committed despite the efforts of security forces. Because the actions and interventions taken so far have proven ineffective, the minister of state adopted new measures. These include restructuring the intervention units and establishing a crisis cell supervised by the minister of state for interior and including the minister of defense, the minister of justice, and the mayor of Ndjamenat. The new security measures will be operational soon and will control the situation, and ensure the security of people and goods in our capital and in the entire national territory, which is confronted by the same atrocities and the same acts of brigandage.

Third, concerning the Justice Ministry, the minister presented a draft bill on the creation of a military court. The Cabinet examined and adopted texts on the creation of a military court with nationwide authority. This court is composed of 11 members and will be chaired by a soldier. Those who will be tried by it are soldiers, paramilitary personnel, and fighters who commit offenses mentioned in the texts. Civilians who cooperate with soldiers or are accomplices or recipients of goods or people will also be tried by the same court.

Offenses are punishable by the following sentences: the death penalty for willful homicide, kidnapping, and illegal restraint of people causing death, violent robbery resulting in disability, armed robbery and robbery aboard a motor vehicle, and robberies relating to or accompanied by murder.

Life imprisonment at hard labor: Robbery resulting in death, armed robbery, association with wrongdoers, willful assault resulting in manslaughter, or kidnapping and restraint of people not resulting in deaths, the illegal use and possession of arms or weapons, illegally wearing military uniforms, or receiving stolen goods and kidnapping.

A license to carry arms, which must be periodically renewed, is to accompany the security measures adopted by the minister of state for interior and will create the optimal conditions of national security to achieve the objectives of the Patriotic Salvation Movement and the government.

Gabon

Politicians Assess Multiparty Experiment

AB0204192891 Libreville Africa No. 1 in French
1250 GMT 1 Apr 91

[From the "Africa Magazine" program]

[Text] A year ago, a national conference was held in Gabon. Following this, several political parties were created, with most of them opposed to the Gabonese Democratic Party [PDG]. In the ensuing general elections held last September and October, the PDG won the majority of seats in Parliament. What is the balance sheet of the experiment now? First, Leonard Enjembe, national organizing secretary of the former sole party, the PDG, views the situation:

[Begin recording] [Enjembe] We are satisfied with the current trend of the democratic process. After the national conference, free and democratic elections were held and a new multiparty Parliament ushered in. As you know, the Parliament is functioning smoothly. After overwhelmingly adopting the budget, it has just passed the Constitution and the law on political parties following one ordinary and two extraordinary sessions. So we are happy with the successful development of our democratic process.

[Unidentified reporter] What lessons did the PDG learn from the national conference? What were its merits?

[Enjembe] The merits of the national conference reside in the fact that it made it possible to define a new direction, to depart from a certain conception of things and lead our country along a new line in conformity with the current changes in the world. In this regard, the national conference was a major turning point.

[Reporter] The national conference recommended that the president of the Republic should place himself above the parties. How does the PDG assess President Bongo's position above political parties?

[Enjembe] We respect the head of state's desire not to interfere in interparty affairs. The state needs a personality who embodies its unity and continuity. For such unity and continuity to be properly ensured, the head of state should actually keep away from daily political wrangling. That is why we fully understand and respect that attitude, because we think it is essential for the equilibrium of our democracy.

Of course, we should agree on the meaning of being above political parties. It does not mean that the head of

state is not a member of a political party. The PDG is inspired by him and is the instrument of his policy. If he wants to be an arbiter for the nation, however, he should stop managing the PDG and rise above its internal wrangling. He should act as an arbiter in the event of a dispute between the PDG and other political parties, and his first role should be to appease and coordinate national activities while avoiding direct involvement in any such disputes.

[Reporter] What is the PDG's assessment of the attitudes of the other political parties in the opposition?

[Enjembe] Some members of the opposition are gradually asserting themselves as a responsible opposition, an opposition that is now endorsing the democratic objectives of our society and that feels it is time to work constructively while expecting constitutional deadlines for elections. Unfortunately, there is another section of the opposition whose members are confronted by a crisis of identity. They do not know if they should organize themselves into a league of agitators or a political movement working in a democratic framework. As you have realized—and news reports show it—certain political parties, especially the National Lumberjacks Rally, have become parties that condone agitation, violence, and total anarchy. One has the feeling that they form an uncontrolled mob. That is not democracy. [end recording]

The Gabonese Progress Party, PGP, with 18 members in the 120-member Parliament, is a leading opposition party. Now PGP Chairman Agondjo-Okawe takes stock of the progress achieved so far:

[Begin recording] [Agondjo-Okawe] The national conference brought about a certain degree of freedom. We can now hold meetings freely. But in addition to that, we know that the PDG was not prepared for the democratic game, and as a result, it has continued to act as if it were not concerned.

It should be recalled that the national conference was not convened to speak of multipartyism or to bring us multipartyism. I think that the Gabonese people tend to forget that the national conference was convened to mobilize the people within a social and democratic rally. The purpose was to examine the statutes and standing regulations for such a rally. So it was not intended to grant us the immediate establishment of a multiparty system. But we fought and obtained it as a precondition. It was therefore the opposition that fought and conquered multiparty democracy. A program was even worked out in the social, political, economic, and cultural fields. But since these were only recommendations, the interim government did not follow them. We now realize that other African countries have overtaken us. In Congo, for instance, the sovereignty of their national conference was proclaimed. Thanks to this sovereignty, the conference will make enforceable decisions, unlike the decisions made by our national conference. [passage indistinct] [end recording]

Rwanda

Rebels Claim Cease-Fire Violations in Mutara

AB0204112091 London BBC World Service in English
1709 GMT 2 Apr 91

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] The Rwandan cease-fire agreement, which is only three days old, is already looking rather fragile, if the rebels are to be believed. On Friday, in the Zairian town of Nsele, near Kinshasa, a cease-fire was signed between representatives of the Rwandan Government and rebels of the RPF [Rwandan Patriotic Front] who invaded Rwanda from Uganda last October. In our program this morning, rebel spokesman (Patrick Mazim Hako) was expressing optimism that the cease-fire would work, and even that rebels are to be integrated into the Rwandan Army, but a short while ago, he contacted us from Brussels to say that there had already been violations. Robin White asked him what, according to him, had happened.

[Begin recording] [(Hako)] The information I got, and it was confirmed today, was that Rwandese Armed Forces attacked two positions in the region of Mutara—that is (Abigishoro) and (Abisho-Ngwezi)—with mortar fire since 30th, and also in the area of Kinigi in the Ruhengeri. At 0900 local time their [as heard] positions were shelled with heavy artillery, 120-mm and 82-mm shells, and also, yesterday, they were attacked from a position near Kinigi at 1815 hours local time, again with heavy artillery including cartouches, so I guess my optimism was misplaced, and I think the minister of foreign affairs in Rwanda did say on a radio broadcast that the agreement wasn't....[(Hako) changes thought] was a paper (?he) had signed on.

[White] Was anybody killed?

[(Hako)] I haven't got details of casualties yet. I will give them to you as soon as I get hold of them.

[White] So, is the cease-fire off, from your point of view?

[(Hako)] What we....[(Hako) changes thought] What seems to be the case is that, maybe, the units were giving them the benefit of the doubt. The forward units were not informed of the cease-fire, and we are taking defensive positions for now. But certainly we cannot go on for ever doing that. If the attacks continue, I think our forces will be forced to defend themselves and, if necessary, go on the offensive.

[White] So, you are giving the government the benefit of the doubt for the time being and hoping that there aren't any more incidents?

[(Hako)] We are hoping there aren't any more incidents, and hoping that the minister of foreign affairs is not really speaking for the government at this time. [end recording]

And for reaction to the rebel claims, Robin White spoke to Ali Yusuf Mugenzi, on the line to Kigali. Have the authorities there said anything about cease-fire violations?

[Begin recording] [Mugenzi] So far, we are not informed of any violations of the cease-fire. No fighting has been reported in Rwanda. Up till now, the Rwandese Government has not reported any violation.

[White] I gather, in fact, that part of the team to supervise the cease-fire has already arrived in Rwanda.

[Mugenzi] Yes. Fourteen military officers arrived on Saturday, [30 March] here from Zaire. On Saturday and yesterday they visited the borders of Rwanda and Uganda to see the position of our troops there. So, maybe, if there was the violation these people could have been told of it. But so far it is quiet, you see?

[White] I gather though that the foreign minister has been disputing the rebel version of the agreement, particularly the bit about RPF rebels being absorbed into the Rwandan Army.

[Mugenzi] Yes. In fact, it is the foreign affairs minister. This is what he said in the morning. The foreign affairs minister explained that it is not possible because of two main reasons. The first reason he gave is that these people were the soldiers of another country, which is Uganda, and then they stopped being the soldiers of Uganda; they now joined the RPF, and they want to become the soldiers of Rwanda. He says this is impossible, and internationally it is not accepted.

[White] And the second reason?

[Mugenzi] There are some of the soldiers who came to Rwanda. They surrendered, and in their interview you find that they can't even speak English. It means that these people are illiterate. He gave the example of them. [sentence as heard] These people don't qualify to join the Rwandese Army. So, because of not having those qualifications, automatically, they cannot join the Rwandese Army because of lacking of those qualifications.

[White] So although there has been no news of violations of the cease-fire, from your side, it does sound that the cease-fire is a little fragile.

[Mugenzi] Well, I can't comment on that. [end recording]

French, Belgian Officials Visit Mutara Region

EA0204104691 Kigali Domestic Service in French
0430 GMT 2 Apr 91

[Text] The French defense attache and the head of Belgian military cooperation in Rwanda visited the

region yesterday to assess the situation prevailing on the Rwanda-Uganda border since the signing last Friday, 29 March, in Kinshasa of the cease-fire agreement between the Rwandan Government and the Rwandan Patriotic Front [RPF]. Accompanied by the minister in the office of the president of the Republic in charge of issues related to defense and security, Colonel Augustin Ndindiliyimana, and by the commander in chief of the Mutara military operations sector, the two cooperation assistants had the opportunity to see that the situation in the sector was calm and under the full control of the Rwandan Army.

As indicated by the commander of the Mutara military sector, however, some mortar fire was heard in the morning of 31 March in a small forest located in (Gasinga), where a few RPF combatants still refuse to lay down their arms and continue to fire at the Rwandan Armed Forces from Ugandan territory. On Sunday, 31 March, the people of (Kaborobota) were obliged to flee when they met face to face with a group of cockroaches [inyenzi] who had infiltrated the area mainly to loot. The group of cockroaches ran away when they saw the Rwandan Armed Forces.

In general, the population is attending to its normal activities. They welcomed with satisfaction the cease-fire agreement signed in N'sele, Zaire, and expressed the hope that it would be respected by both parties. There is room for hope that the harvest will also be good in the region.

Sao Tome & Principe

Angolan Troops To Depart by End of Year

AB0204205891 Paris AFP in English 2021 GMT
2 Apr 91

[Text] Sao Tome, April 2 (AFP)—Angolan troops stationed in Sao Tome and Principe since 1978 are to leave the tiny West African island state by the end of this year, officials said on Tuesday.

The Angolans were sent in at the request of the authorities here in March 1978 to bolster the regime against an attempted coup. Numbering 1,200 soldiers at most, and down to 400 now, the Angolans have been based near the airport and at a camp inland. President-elect Miguel Trovoadá, who is due to take office this Wednesday, discussed their withdrawal in the Angolan capital Luanda last week.

Sources close to the new government said the authorities were counting on the nine-month withdrawal period to build up Sao Tome's own army of about 900 men which is widely rated as very weak despite military training arrangements with Portugal and the United States.

Ethiopia

Rebels Report Air Force Raids Around Denakil

EA0304093091 (Clandestine) Voice of the Broad
Masses of Eritrea in Tigrinya 0400 GMT 2 Apr 91

[Excerpt] Dergue Air Force military planes have burned out six private boats of innocent people around Ed, in southern Denakil. The Dergue Air Force planes continued air raids on the area soon after the offensive was launched in the area by our combatants, and burned out innocent people's boats on different days, according to reports reaching us. [passage omitted]

* Newsletter Alleges Disinformation Campaign

91AF0864A London ADULIS in English
Feb-Mar 91 p 10

[Text] A new section within the Ethiopian Security Department is churning out disinformation. The aptly named Morale Boosting Organization (MOGED) has the specific assignment of falsifying documents and releasing military communiques of phantom battles, military engagements that never took place, in order to boost the morale of the Army. Another key aim of the endeavor is to create the impression abroad that the regime is recuperating from its recent defeats to produce a military stalemate in Eritrea.

Kenya

Reportage on George Saitoti Visit to UK

W42903175591

For reportage on the visit by Vice President and Minister of Finance George Saitoti to the United Kingdom, including reports on his address to the House of Commons, please see the United Kingdom section of the 29 March West Europe DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

Somalia

Arteh Warns Kenya About Supporting Siad Remnants

AB0204204091 London BBC World Service
in English 1709 GMT 2 Apr 91

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] Somalia's interim prime minister today accused the Kenyan Government of supporting remnants of ousted President Siad Barre's army. When rebels pushed Siad Barre out of Mogadishu in January, some elements of his army fled intact to the south. There were reports that they clashed with rebels on several occasions and there have also been reports that they are regrouping around the southern Somali town of Kismaayo. Prime Minister Omar Arteh is currently in the Gulf state of Oman, and on the line, Robin White asked him what exactly he was claiming:

[Begin recording] [Arteh] Well, Mr. Robin White, we have reliable information that Kenya is helping the remnants of the defunct regime with arms, ammunition, and other forms of assistance, to our dismay, and I had a very great respect for President arap Moi, and I know him for a very long time. I always thought that he is a wise man with foresight, but it seems that the mischief makers in his government have overtaken him, and we are very much concerned, and we are warning Kenya that if they continue to play with fire, they will regret it. This is the only thing I can say now.

[White] How are these arms and ammunition getting into Somalia?

[Arteh] Well, as you know, the Kenyan authorities have subvented [as heard] planes carrying emergency aid to Mogadishu for our people who are in need of these provisions and he is allowing the same aircraft to go somewhere else where these arms and other forms of assistance can be given to those people.

[White] Where is this somewhere else? Is it Kismaayo?

[Arteh] Yes, Kismaayo and some other air strips (?sometimes).

[White] And how long has this been going on, according to you?

[Arteh] I think, as far as I know, this has been going on for nearly 3 weeks now, and even more.

[White] Why do you think that Kenyans would want to do this?

[Arteh] I do not understand. I think they should be asked that question themselves.

[White] But these are very serious charges. Are you absolutely sure of your facts?

[Arteh] Well, I must say very frankly that our president, Ali Mahdi, sent a letter to President arap Moi with our minister of state for foreign affairs and he indicated in that letter that we want to have a close relationship with Kenya as a neighborly country, and I know that the president did not meet our minister of state for foreign affairs. I think that was [words indistinct], and it indicated that our suspicion is absolutely (?reasoned).

[White] So the Kenyan Government is refusing to talk to you?

[Arteh] Well, as a man who has been in politics and diplomacy for a very long time, I know and you know what it means when you send a letter to a president and he does not receive the man who is carrying that letter. You know what it means.

[White] The fact that President Moi did not receive your envoy, that is not a firm proof, though, that they are sending arms to the remnants of Siad Barre's troops.

[Arteh] No, that I mean... [changes thought] We had our suspicion before, but when that thing happened, our suspicion has come true. [end recording]

ANC, U.S. Officials in 'Confidential' Talks

MB0204113191 Johannesburg BUSINESS DAY
in English 2 Apr 91 p 3

[Unattributed report: "High-Powered Talks Begin on SA's Future"]

[Text] Cape Town—U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs Herman Cohen, top ANC [African National Congress] officials and other influential politicians were involved in confidential discussions at the start of a high-powered international conference on the future of SA [South Africa] yesterday.

Walter Sisulu, internal leader of the ANC, and Thabo Mbeki, head of the international section of the ANC, were among delegates at the closed conference. Two other ANC delegates, Christmas Tinto and Amos Lingisi, said vice-president Nelson Mandela had been unable to attend the four-day conference sponsored by the American Aspen Foundation.

An ANC delegate from the organisation's international section, Yusuf Saloojee, said sanctions had been only one of the topics under discussion [name as published].

The conference is expected to have a significant impact on international policy-making towards Pretoria and is being attended by influential politicians from the U.S., the Soviet Union, Germany and Britain.

SA participants will include President F.W. de Klerk and Inkatha leader Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi, and other politicians and representatives from business and labour.

The conference organiser, former U.S. Senator Dick Clark, said proceedings were likely to have an impact on sanctions, legislations, and other areas of U.S. policy on SA.

Sixteen U.S. congressmen and a number of overseas politicians have travelled to SA to attend the conference.

The Aspen Institute is an international organisation whose programmes are designed to enhance the ability of leaders in business, government, the non-profit sector, academia and the media to understand and act upon the issues that challenge the national and international community, according to a leaflet.

The institute's headquarters are based in Maryland, with other facilities and programmes in Aspen, Colorado, and in five countries overseas. It is an independent, non-profit organisation funded through foundation grants, tuition and individual and corporate contributions.

Buthelezi Addresses Meeting

MB0204202091 Johannesburg SABA in English
1910 GMT 2 Apr 91

[Text] Cape Town Apr 2 SABA—The world should forget the notion that the model for South Africa's

liberation was identical to those used in Mozambique, Angola, Zimbabwe and Namibia. This was said on Tuesday by Mr Mangosuthu Buthelezi, president of the Inkatha Freedom Party [IFP]. He addressed the Aspen Institute's Southern Africa policy forum in Cape Town.

In other African countries, he said, overpoweringly strong liberation movements had waged a successful armed struggle against racism and colonialism, and were swept to power by citizens who regarded the returning liberation forces as the only immediate forces with the right to form a government. He warned that such developments would, however, not take place in South Africa. "In South Africa, there will be no drummed-up political conformity, no coerced lines of action, no unity based on a fearful compliance with any one-party political dictates enforced by the politics of intimidation."

He said the three major parties—Inkatha, the African National Congress [ANC] and the ruling National Party [NP]—had common commitments to cooperate with each other in establishing a new political era. There was substantial agreement amongst these three parties on many fundamental issues such as universal adult franchise, the dismantling of apartheid in a non-violent manner, and citizens' equality before the law and the constitution. They also agreed that all racist legislation had to be removed, that only a multiparty democracy with free elections would be acceptable, and that violence had to be put aside.

On other issues there was "some argument but no enmity"—for instance on the kind of economic mix needed in the country. His personal conviction was, however, that since there was substantial agreement on issues that really mattered, the IFP, ANC and NP would create a South Africanism "which will rally ever-increasing numbers of citizens around that which the three major parties are doing together". He said both the IFP and the ANC were still grappling with the problem of violence "in a very violent society".

He praised growing normalisation of relationships between the IFP, the ANC and the Pan Africanist Congress, and said other political forces such as the Azanian People's Organisation would also be drawn into the normalisation process. He warned that unless reconciliation was established between black and white and between black and black, South Africa would not obtain the national will to make any established democracy work.

Minister on 'Interim Measures' During Transition

MB0304143391 Johannesburg Domestic Service
in Afrikaans 1400 GMT 3 Apr 91

[Text] Constitutional Development Minister Dr. Gerrit Viljoen says that the government is in favor of possible interim measures during the transition phase to a new dispensation to enable participation by people outside the parliamentary system. In an interview in the June [as heard] edition of RSA [Republic of South Africa]

POLICY REVIEW. Dr. Viljoen said the government agrees that such structures and procedures must be created through negotiations.

The concept of an interim government as propagated by the African National Congress, and which involves the total surrender of power is, however, unacceptable. Dr. Viljoen said that the government does not exclude the possibility of a constituent assembly, for all proposals made at a multiparty conference will be open to discussion.

Hani on Parliamentary Control of Armed Forces

*MB0204204891 Johannesburg SAPA in English
2009 GMT 2 Apr 91*

[Text] Stellenbosch Apr 2 SAPA—Parliamentary control of the Armed Forces in a future South Africa was essential for the status of Armed Forces in a democracy. Mr Chris Hani, chief of staff of the ANC's [African National Congress] armed wing, said at Stellenbosch University on Tuesday. Mr Hani was addressing an estimated 800 students who had attended a meeting called by the Stellenbosch University branch of NUSAS [National Union of South African Students] and the Black Students' Society. Mr Hani, who entered the hall with at least six bodyguards, including former accused terrorist Mr Tony Yengeni [as received], as well as Mr Bongani Jonas, Mr Norman Yengeni and Mr Jeremy Veary, was greeted with loud applause and chants.

Speaking on military and democracy in a new South Africa, Mr Hani said parliamentary control of the Armed Forces was the security-political conscience of the nation. The African National Congress was arguing for parliamentary control cognizant of the fact that apartheid had politicised the security forces who, in the struggle for the assertion of white supremacy, were seen by a substantial section of the population as instruments of the white state.

"Our security forces were almost in danger at one time of being a state within a state. Parliamentary authority was very weak and sometimes key decisions were taken at the level of the state Security Council", Mr Hani said.

He also wanted to argue for the acceptance of the need for political awareness by the military as opposed to political indoctrination. Like any other citizen, soldiers had the right to vote and to participate in the social, public and political life of a democratic state. The servicemen of the future would so be serving a democratic government and not the sectional interest of one part of the population. Agitation for any political party should, however, not be allowed on army premises, he said.

A future South African Army would be made up of a substantial number of the SA [South African] Defence Force [SADF] because of its size, expertise, professionalism and sophistication. However, to achieve that, it was important that the SADF should be prepared for

service in a future democratic SA. That preparation and orientation should start without delay, he said.

Umkhonto we Sizwe [Spear of the Nation, MK—ANC Military wing] was a highly politicized guerrilla army but it would see the emergence of a democratic SA as an accomplishment of its historic mission beyond which it would wither away. Mr Hani said those MK members who would want to continue with a military career would have to join a new SA Army whose guidelines would have been laid down by a new democratic government. Control of the military should never be the exclusive domain of the governing party. There should be a bipartisan defence committee whose dealings should be subject to public scrutiny, he said.

Hani Says ANC To Free Dissidents by Year End

*MB0304130491 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1228 GMT 3 Apr 91*

[Text] Cape Town April 3 SAPA—All dissidents held by the African National Congress [ANC] will be freed by the end of the year, says Umkhonto we Sizwe [Spear of the Nation—ANC military wing] Chief of Staff Chris Hani. In reply to questions at the University of Stellenbosch on Tuesday [2 April], he said that "we shall do away with conscription" in a democratic South Africa, and pledged that the ANC would tell parents why people had "unfortunately" died in a mutiny at Quatro camp in Angola.

Asked about ANC dissidents, he told the packed meeting that it had been necessary for the movement to set up a detention centre at Quatro because agents had been sent to assassinate ANC members. He had almost been killed in a car bomb attack in 1981, he said. "We are in the process of releasing everybody. My own view is that everybody will have been released by the end of the year."

ANC To Discuss Alexandra Violence With Vlok

*MB0204164991 Umtata Capital Radio in English
1500 GMT 2 Apr 91*

[Text] An ANC [African National Congress] delegation led by Internal Leader Walter Sisulu will meet with Law and Order Minister Adriaan Vlok in Pretoria tomorrow to discuss the violence gripping the Alexandra township. The meeting was called after another attack in the township outside Sandton last night left four people dead. The latest shootings occurred in the same area as a similar attack on Sunday night [31 Mar], and brings the Easter weekend death toll in Alexandra to 11.

Meanwhile, the South African Communist Party [SACP] has reacted to the on-going violence in Alexandra by saying the government is either unable to curb the killings, or is not willing to end the violence. SACP Regional Publicity Secretary (Sam Shilowa) has also hit out at the carrying of traditional weapons, calling them instruments of death.

ANC To Hold June Conference in Durban

MB0204112791 Johannesburg BUSINESS DAY
in English 2 Apr 91 p 2

[Report by Tim Cohen: "ANC Meets in Inkatha Country"]

[Text] The ANC's [African National Congress] much-heralded June conference will be held in Durban, probably between "Soweto Day" (June 16) and "Freedom Day" (June 26), ANC spokesman Gill Marcus said yesterday.

Marcus denied there were political reasons for holding the conference in the province where one of its major rivals, Inkatha, has its strongest support.

Factors influencing the decision to hold the conference in Durban included the fact that the ANC wanted to avoid holding it in the PWV [Pretoria, Witwatersrand, Vereeniging] region where its consultative conference was held last year. Logistical factors also played a role, she said.

Holding the conference in Durban would mean shorter trips for many delegates, than, for example, holding it in Cape Town.

The conference date has not yet been announced, but it is likely to include either June 16 or June 26.

Many ANC campaigns have been launched on June 26, the anniversary of the signing of the Freedom Charter.

The conference will be the first fully-fledged national conference since the ANC's unbanning.

AWB Rejects Negotiating With ANC, SACP

MB0304084191 Umtata Capital Radio in English
0600 GMT 3 Apr 91

[Text] A number of rightwing organizations have vowed to get tough if the government hands over power to the ANC [African National Congress] and SACP [South African Communist Party]. Carmel Rickard reports on last night's meeting in the Durban City Hall:

[Rickard] The AWB [Afrikaner Resistance Movement] would only negotiate with the ANC over the barrel of a gun. That is the fighting talk of AWB leader, Eugene Terreblanch. Speaking in the Durban City Hall last night, he promised if the government gave in to the demands of the ANC and the SACP, the AWB would, as he put it, reclaim the country by violent means.

Leader of the Order Boere Volk [Order of the Boer People], Piet Rudolf, recently released from detention by the government and given indemnity from prosecution, said if the government continues to negotiate with the ANC, extra parliamentary means would have to be used. He also said the AWB was the only organization which could be trusted to save whites from the path of destruction chosen by the government. The AWB's tough talk

comes just two days before one of its members is to be sentenced for killing seven black people and injuring another 27.

Deputy Minister Notes Rise in Natal Crime Rate

MB0204164691 Umtata Capital Radio in English
1300 GMT 2 Apr 91

[Text] Deputy Law and Order Minister Johan Scheepers says Natal has the highest crime rate in the country. Speaking at a temporary police station set up at Umhlanga on the north coast, Scheepers said Natal had experienced 121 percent more crime during 1990 than the [Orange] Free State, and nearly 40 percent more than the Transvaal. He called for communities to join bodies such as neighborhood watches and business watch schemes.

Gunman Kills Four, Wounds Six at Soweto Party

MB0204164091 Johannesburg International Service
in English 1100 GMT 2 Apr 91

[Text] The South African Police have announced that four people were killed, and six wounded, when a man armed with an AK-47 rifle opened fire on party-goers in a house in the black residential area of Soweto, near Johannesburg, at the weekend. A police spokesman said the motive for the attack was not yet clear. The wounded were taken to the Baragwanath Hospital where they are undergoing treatment. The spokesman said an investigation was under way.

Drop in Strike Action in 1st Quarter of 1991

MB0204115191 Johannesburg THE STAR in English
2 Apr 91 p 7

[Report by Shareen Singh: "Big Decrease Reported in Strike Action"]

[Text] There was a dramatic decrease in strike action in the first quarter of 1991, with a little more than 180,000 man-days lost compared to the high of about 600,000 for the same period last year, an industrial relations concern has revealed.

Andrew Levy and Associates said, however, that, barring last year, there had been a steady upward movement in strike action since 1988, with the first quarter of this year reflecting this trend. In 1989, 140,000 man-days were lost and in 1988, 70,000.

It was generally accepted that the first quarter of last year was atypical in terms of strike action, the company said.

Startling political developments which raised expectations and worker militancy, combined with the 1989 railway workers' strike involving 26,000 workers which ran into January last year, and a number of large wage strikes, tended to inflate the 1990 figure.

Growing unrest was anticipated as negotiations for a new constitution progressed, coinciding with major wage negotiations. This was expected to impact heavily on the incidence of industrial action in coming months.

The unions responsible for most man-days lost were:

- National Union of Metalworkers—26.3 percent.
- National Education, Health and Allied Workers' Union—23.4 percent.
- South African Commercial, Catering and Allied Workers' Union—16.4 percent.
- South African Clothing and Textile Workers' Union—9.6 percent.
- Teachers' Association of South Africa—7.6 percent.

Two longest running strikes in the first quarter were at Metropolitan Life (35 days) and SA [South African] Nylon Spinners (17 days).

Ciskei Threatens Dismissal of Striking Workers

*MB0304075391 Johannesburg SAPA in English
2129 GMT 2 Apr 91*

[Text] Bisho Apr 2 SAPA—The Ciskei's military government has threatened to fire civil servants who do not arrive for work on Wednesday [3 April], after many embarked on a stayaway on Tuesday—the third since last November.

In a statement the government also gave striking civil servants until noon on Friday to submit written reasons to their heads of departments to show why they should not be fired in terms of public service act regulations.

Civil Servants To Receive 10 Percent Pay Hike

*MB0304074691 Umtata Capital Radio in English
0500 GMT 3 Apr 91*

[Text] Civil servants are to get a 10 percent pay hike in July. The government has announced that public servant's salaries will be boosted by 10 percent in a non-pensionable allowance from July. The pay hike will be funded from the 3 billion rand allocated in the budget to improving public servants' service conditions. However, the Public Service Association say at some stage employees will be unhappy with the 10 percent increase, and they've described the pay hike as totally inadequate.

Closing of Goldmine To Eliminate 3000 Jobs

*MB0204211191 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1924 GMT 2 Apr 91*

[Text] Johannesburg Apr 2 SAPA—The Stilfontein Gold Mine will cease underground mining operations by the end of this year—a decision which will affect nearly 3000 workers at the mine. In a statement by the General Mining Corporation, the Chairman of the Western Transvaal Mine and Managing Director of Gengold Mr Gary Maude expressed his sympathy with the employees. He said the 2950 workers would have to look

for jobs in a depressed industry. The management was still trying to assist employees find other jobs.

The mine has been trying since November 1989—when it first showed a working loss—to keep afloat. The mine's wage and salary bill came to R [rand] 71 million in 1990. Much of this was spent locally and a large portion of this money will now not be available to the community in and around Stilfontein. "We realise that this will have a serious effect on the community, but there was no other viable option," Mr Maude said. [Words indistinct] ... the life of the mine, up to the end of 1990, Stilfontein produced 690 tons of gold, roughly equal to South Africa's annual output in the last few years. The mine's total income came to more than R3008 million and it paid R367 million in taxes and R463 million in dividends to shareholders.

The management said two shafts—Scott and Margaret—would be maintained in operating condition, if assistance was forthcoming, so that pumping could continue to prevent underground water from running into neighbouring mines. On the surface, rock dumps are to be milled for as long as it is profitable. This, with pumping and other operations, will provide employment for some 500 people. Mr Maude said the rock dump milling operation could possibly continue for more than three years by which time the rehabilitation of the mine area should also be completed.

Attention would also continue to be given to the possibility of the company participating in other mining investments. The fundamental problem was that the ore reserves on the Vaal Reef horizon are almost exhausted and that mining operations have become increasingly dependent on the exploitations of the Ventersdorp Contact Reef [VCR]. This reef was relatively unexplored and in June 1990 the board decided that R5 million should be used to develop promising areas of the VCR to determine whether the reef could support profitable mining operations. Promising patches were found but would only be profitable if the gold price increased to R50000 a kilogram.

Government Ends Controls on Coal Exports

*MB0204163291 Umtata Capital Radio in English
1200 GMT 2 Apr 91*

[Text] The government has relaxed its control over coal exports. The cabinet has accepted the recommendations of the Coal Advisory Committee and dropped all controls over exports of coal. The committee found that the state-imposed ceiling of 80 million tonnes per annum had never been reached and was therefore unnecessary, and said the controls at export ports, such as Richards Bay and Durban, adequately controlled the export of the fuel. The report also points out that the major domestic users of coal, Eskom [Electricity Supply Commission] and Sasol [South African Coal, Oil and Gas Corporation]

used lower grade coal than that exported and would therefore remain unaffected by a deregulation in the coal industry.

Minister Notes Shortfall of Houses for Blacks

MB0204211991 Johannesburg Domestic Service
in English 1600 GMT 2 Apr 91

[Text] The minister of planning, provincial affairs, and national housing, Mr. Hernus Kriel, says that there is an estimated shortfall of 757,000 houses for blacks, excluding the shortfall in the self-governing territories.

Replying to a written question in parliament, Mr. Kriel said that the government planned to [words indistinct] South Africans by the year 2000.

More than 32,000 houses had been built outside the self-governing territories during last year, and almost 8,000 loans had been provided with which to build houses.

Replying to a question on arrears owed by black municipalities, Mr. Kriel said that 23 black towns in the Transvaal and the [Orange] Free State [Provinces] have had no electricity, water, or sewage facilities, some since last September, because they have refused to pay for the services.

Thokoza in Alberton on the east Rand owed nearly 2,250,000 rands for electricity, and Thabong near Welkom in the Free State owed 1,900,000 rands for water.

Mr. Kriel said there were on-going discussions with interested parties to motivate people to pay their service charges.

Democrat Named Parliamentarian for Yeoville

MB0204122491 Johannesburg Domestic Service
in English 1100 GMT 2 Apr 91

[Text] The new member of Parliament for Yeoville is Mr. Douglas Gibson of the Democratic Party. His nomination was the only one accepted by the nomination court in Johannesburg this morning. Mr. Gibson said that he would try to represent the interest not only of Yeoville voters but also of all South Africans. He said he would fight for a new South Africa in which the rule of law would apply and a democratic government was in power.

The nomination of the candidate of the Federal Independent Democratic Alliance, FIDA, Mr. Colin Vale, was disqualified by the electoral officer, Mr. Dirk Bouwer. The Yeoville seat fell vacant after the resignation of the new South African ambassador to the United States, Mr. Harry Schwarz.

3 Apr Press Review on Current Problems, Issues

MB0304113291

[Editorial Report]

THE CITIZEN

Editorial Notes Slovo's 'Calculated Aggression'—Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English on 26 March in its page 6 editorial notes Joe Slovo's remark that the African National Congress, ANC, and its allies "have every right to take South Africa by force if it doesn't reach agreement with the National Party on a new and democratic society." "Does he think there are any East-bloc countries that are able or willing to help him, when they have ousted their Communist rulers, are trying to change their economies on free market lines, and are keen to trade with South Africa?" "Let's hope, therefore, that there are enough moderates in the ANC who will reject your economic madness as well as your calculated aggression."

THE STAR

Proposal for Reservists To Protect Farmers—Referring to the fatal attacks on elderly farmers recently, Johannesburg THE STAR in English on 3 April in a page 16 editorial urges the authorities to consider a protection system "similar to that used in Rhodesia during the bush war. Reservists known as 'Bright Lights'—because they came from the cities and towns—were called up to spend up to two weeks on farms and smallholdings to protect the inhabitants." "As a temporary emergency measure until the police force is up to strength it might be the best we can do."

Township Violence Boosts Buthelezi's Stature—John Carlin writes on the same page that: "If the country were at peace, Chief Buthelezi would rapidly regress to the relative obscurity—one homeland leader more—to which he was reduced just after Mr Mandela's release a year ago, before the township killings flared." The violence of the last eight months has "diminished" Mandela's stature and "significantly boosted" Chief Buthelezi's. "That is the politics of the township violence. If politics has nothing to do with it—if Inkatha has merely been caught up in a senseless spiral like everybody else—then the white editorial-writers are right, and it's all just barbarism."

SOWETAN

Call for United PAC, ANC—Johannesburg SOWETAN in English on 3 April in a page 8 editorial notes the "hopeful news" that the national executive committees of the Pan-Africanist Congress (PAC) and the ANC are to meet in Harare "soon" to try to agree about the way they will approach future dealings with the government. The "more united the leaders stand now, the greater the voice they can raise at the negotiation table." If PAC and the ANC are united they will "speed up progress towards the great day when all South Africans will be able to equally decide who shall govern them."

CAPE TIMES

Majority 'In No Position To Seize Power'—Peter auf der Heyde, a journalist with the Inkatha Institute, writes in the "Viewpoint" column on page 6 of Cape Town CAPE TIMES in English on 25 March that those calling for a constituent assembly seem to "miss a very important factor, namely that of the present balance of power within South African politics. Although it is true that the state is in no position to continue minority rule, the majority are also in no position to seize power." In South Africa where the power struggle cannot be resolved by force, "numbers alone cannot be the basis of the parties' agreeing on new rules of the game. Instead, the conflicting parties should accord each other equal status and negotiate on those terms." The Inkatha Freedom Party, therefore, calls for a multiparty conference at which "all parties with a recognisable constituency will have a chance to participate in the drawing up of a new constitution—which could be ratified and legitimised by a referendum once it has been formulated." Auf der Heyde warns that a referendum should only take place "once inter-party reconciliation has taken place and a minimal level of political understanding has been achieved by the electorate in a normalised rather than liberatory political environment. The constituent assembly approach is likely to achieve the exact opposite."

Support for Private People's Armies 'Sinister'—Cape Town CAPE TIMES in English on 26 March in a page 8 editorial declares the Conservative Party's support for a private people's army is "a sinister development," and "follows on the heels of Andries Treurnicht's barely-veiled threat to use force in the protection of 'white rights and freedoms'." CAPE TIMES wonders at the "government's patience with such war talk." "How can it possibly allow 'people's armies' whose purpose is not to fight crime but to protect white privilege and ensure, by violent means, the maintenance of racial injustice?"

* Navy Chief: Striking Force at Capable Level

91AF0703A BEELD in Afrikaans 9 Jan 91 p 13

[Report: "South Africa Can Build Its Own Submarines—Navy Chief"]

[Text] Cape Town—South Africa can build its own submarines, according to the Chief of the Navy, Vice Admiral Lambert Woodburne.

However, in an interview with the British military magazine "Jane's Defence Weekly," he says that it would probably be too expensive for South Africa to develop all the components and systems for a new submarine by itself.

Although the three Daphne submarines of the Navy are small, they are well equipped for their task. "There is nothing the matter with our torpedoes. We regularly test the submarines in their entirety. That includes the firing of torpedoes at target ships. Recently, moving target ships were also shot at."

Although the Navy's attack vessels have a reasonably strong firepower, their effectiveness is limited, according to Admiral Woodburne, by their short firing range. The vessels also are not entirely appropriate for the ocean conditions along South Africa's coast.

According to "Jane's," Admiral Woodburne is in charge of an outdated fleet which will "shortly" have to be replaced. He is confident, however, that he will get money for new ships.

Although the size of the Navy was decreased by recent cuts, the seagoing part of it was not affected. "We have just as many operational ships today as in the recent past," he said.

Within the next 10 years the Navy will have to get new ships, however, if it wants to preserve its firepower.

* Black Leadership, Turmoil in Sector Examined

91AF0703B BEELD in Afrikaans 9 Jan 91 p 13

[Commentary by Dr. Tjaart vd Walt in "Current Affairs" column: "Green Light for a Good Year...but the time bomb could explode any moment"]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted]

Black Ranks

If the signs of confusion in White voters' ranks are unmistakable, that is still nothing in comparison to what is happening in Black ranks.

For too long apartheid was the scapegoat for everything under the sun. Although the echoes of this refrain will certainly not disappear overnight, the tune cannot be sung indefinitely with the same volume and conviction.

The Whites have been the common enemy long enough. Now that power sharing is little by little becoming a reality, it is obvious that the internal power struggle in Black ranks is exploding into violence.

The leaders of the "struggle" on Robben Island or abroad were, on the one hand, protected from the bickering of narrow-minded and trivial politicizing; on the other hand, they were prominent enough to be mythical figures, gigantic figures, symbols.

And now suddenly they are free, and back...and exposed to the critical look of their admirers. The heroes "are not lacking feet of clay." The lack of regular intimate contact also, with the details of what is happening in South Africa, is taking its toll. The foot-soldiers who continued the struggle within South Africa increasingly wonder: But are all those officers necessarily so much better than our own local leaders?

This internal turmoil is reflected most clearly, but also most sadly, in the unrest statistics. It is not as much Whites and Blacks who are involved in violent conflict; it is Blacks murdering and intimidating Blacks, and destroying each others' property.

The need for order and justice, peace and stability, rest and security, lives not only in White ranks. Especially in Black ranks, those are very high on the list of priorities.

*** High Incidence of East Rand Violence Viewed**

91AF0703C BEELD in Afrikaans 23 Jan 91 p 13

[Report by Ferdi Greyling: "Violence/violence/violence—Why so often at Vereeniging, East Rand?"]

[Text] When violence breaks out in the Rand, it is actually guaranteed that it will be in the Vereeniging-Vanderbijlpark-Sebokeng area. If not, it will be in East Rand, in the Kathlehong-Vosloorus-Tokoza area.

Just think of the bloody collisions of the past years. The disturbances of 1984 started in the Vereeniging area. And just think of Sharpeville in 1960—that, too, was near Vereeniging.

Not too long ago, it was again East Rand's turn, with the squatter camp Pholapark near Tokoza as the focus.

Why always in those areas?

Ferdi Greyling (photo) tried to find the answers.

The "informal growth" of those areas during the past 5 years is evident from statistics. According to the census in 1985, there are only 137,000 inhabitants in Kathlehong. About the same number is indicated for Sebokeng.

Professor Willie Breytenbach, head of the department of African Studies at the University of Stellenbosch, outlined the dynamic which often leads to violence.

When people compete for scarce resources such as employment and housing, it often leads to violence, he says.

Often this is then structured around ideological interests, and mobilization for violence also often occurs on an ethnic basis.

All those factors are present in those black areas, plus a further dimension: class differences.

In the problem areas in the Rand there are three classes, Professor Breytenbach says. The highest class is the more established residents, then there is a class of boardinghouse residents in the middle, and a squatters' class at the bottom.

"This is not a traditional Marxist class analysis. According to such an analysis the boardinghouse residents were the proletariat," he says. The squatters' class—such as the people living in Pholapark—are, however, a step lower than the boardinghouse class.

In East Rand the boardinghouses are traditionally used primarily by Zulu workers. The boarders are "first generation migratory workers": especially single men who are not very refined economically and who do not fit fully into the modern economy.

Professor Breytenbach's ethnicity could be dormant in communities for a long time. If within the community there is no competition and conflict, then coexistence is good. When the socioeconomic pressure increases, however, and there are too few work opportunities and houses, the resulting competition and conflict are channeled, many times, according to ethnic differences.

According to researches at the South African Institute for Racial Relations (SAIRV), there is definitely a shortage of housing and schools in East Rand and Vaaldrichhoek, and there are large squatters' communities.

The areas are characterized by many boarding houses. Further, legal authority in those areas has disappeared, so to say, and there is what is described as "the legacy of apartheid in its entirety."

Further, the people in the eastern part of the Rand have always been politically very militant.

—The unrest of 1984, for example, arose there to a high degree.

—The notorious Sharpeville shooting of 1960 occurred near Sebokeng.

The question, however, is why violence broke out with such intensity last year. After all, the people lived under those conditions for a long time.

The ANC claims that a "third power" is responsible for that—people who merely ignite the already existing fuses. Inkatha says once again that it is an ethnic struggle.

There are no easy answers, the SAIRV researchers say.

An important factor which should probably not be forgotten is the happenings of 2 February last year.

When the African National Congress (ANC), the Pan-Africanist Congress (PAC) and the South African Communist Party (SACP) were unbanned and the path of change stepped onto, strong political powers were let loose which had been suppressed for decades. In Black ranks this probably led to competition to found power bases for the future—on a foundation which is a disaster area at the socioeconomic level and which is interwoven with deep-seated ideological, ethnic and class differences.

But almost the same factors are also present in Greater Soweto. Then why did that area not explode with the same intensity?

The explanation of the SAIRV researchers is that Soweto is better off with respect to the infrastructure and that it is a richer area.

That is exactly what Mr. Pat Laphunya, president of the Soweto Civic Association, points out: political structures and the resident structure, the so-called "Civics," are probably better established in Soweto than in East Rand and Vaaldrichhoek.

This leads to a more stable community and better discipline in the population, they believe.

*** Coal Waste Recovery Plant Commissioned**

91AF0726B Johannesburg *ENGINEERING WEEK*
in English 8 Feb 91 pp 1-2

[Text] FFS Refiners has commissioned a R [rands] 4-million plant to make pitch bound bituminous coal briquettes at Sasol's waste dam site in Secunda.

The plant exploits two waste materials: fine coal and pitch.

The coal is dredged from the extensive dams of waste coal at Sasol Secunda and pumped to the beneficiation plant.

There the slurry is first hydrocycloned to reduce the superfines content and to thicken it for passing through the gravity separators to reduce the ash content.

The water is then mechanically removed, producing washed fine coal of 16% moisture content and ash of as low as 14.5%. This provides the first usable product for brick making, furnace firing and as a feed for pulverized fuel.

The next stage in the process is a flash drier to provide dry material with which to feed the briquetting plant. Here the pitch is injected in liquid form and mixed in a high speed high shear mixer before being fed to a roll press.

The briquettes are suitable as a replacement for pea coal and small nut. They are aimed at the industrial market for use on chain grates and under feed stokers.

The cost of production is said to be less than the cost of mining coal. The major limitation in the use of this fine coal is the cost and availability of suitable binders.

Don Hunter, FFS Refiners general manager, said: "Far more needs to be done to recover waste material, such as duff coal, which is currently being dumped."

He quoted the Department of Mineral and Energy Affairs' claim that every year 44 million t of duff coal was thrown onto waste dumps, of which an estimated 36 million t was usable.

Said Hunter, "We would like to see more interest being taken in using waste products."

He disagreed with the suggestion that the problem of township pollution could be solved by the development of a smokeless fuel, such as the one being considered by Prof David Horsfall of Wits University (*ENGINEERING WEEK*, November 23).

Horsfall is hoping to clear air pollution by developing a cheap smokeless coal for use in townships.

Hunter said the notion that the township pollution problem could be solved in this fashion is exceedingly unlikely.

He claimed duff coal had very little value (between R15 and R25/t). However as soon as it was reformed into pellets or briquettes, it regained its original value-between R85 and 100/t.

Since township blacks used low grade bituminous coal which sold for between R30 and R36/t they would not buy smokeless fuel which sold for three times that, he concluded.

Horsfall responded to this by saying, "My only comment is that he is entitled to his opinion."

Angola

Lisbon Peace Talks Postponed Until 4 Apr

*MB0204195591 Luanda Domestic Service
in Portuguese 1900 GMT 2 Apr 91*

[Text] Delegations to the sixth round of talks between the Angolan Government and UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] have begun to arrive in the Portuguese capital. The round was scheduled to begin tomorrow, but because of technical reasons it will start on 4 April. Part of the Angolan delegation, consisting mainly of military personnel, includes senior Armed Forces officers. It has already arrived in Lisbon, but other members of the delegation will leave Luanda tomorrow.

The sixth round of talks will deal with two major issues—namely, setting dates for a cease-fire and holding free elections in Angola, and the formation of a single army. The latter issue explains the presence in Lisbon of senior Angolan Armed Forces officers. In addition to Portuguese mediators, along with Soviet and U.S. observers, the sixth round of talks will for the first time be attended by UN representatives.

UNITA Delegation Head Previews Peace Talks

*MB0304070991 (Clandestine) Voice of Resistance
of the Black Cockerel in Portuguese to Southern and
Central Africa 0500 GMT 3 Apr 91*

[Text] UNITA Vice President Jeremias Chitunda said in Lisbon today that any cease-fire agreement in the civil war that has ravaged Angola for the past 16 years will have to be signed by Comrade President Dr. Savimbi and Eduardo dos Santos, president of the People's Republic of Angola. The UNITA vice president said: Dr. Savimbi and Eduardo dos Santos are the chairmen of UNITA and the MPLA-PT [Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola-Labor Party] respectively and, as such, only they can sign this very important agreement.

Brigadier Jeremias Chitunda, who is leading UNITA's delegation to the peace talks, told the press that tomorrow's negotiations will center on the cease-fire and elections—two closely linked issues. The establishment of a single national army will also be discussed.

FAPLA Communique Reports UNITA Activity

*MB0204193591 Luanda Domestic Service
in Portuguese 1900 GMT 2 Apr 91*

[Communique issued by People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola, FAPLA, General Staff in Luanda on 2 April]

[Text] On the eve of the resumption of peace talks, the FAPLA's General Staff regrets to draw the attention of the domestic and international public to UNITA's [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola]

renewed military activities. Once again, we are witnessing a UNITA attempt to gain political advantages through military actions.

UNITA has been stepping up its actions since last week, with a view to taking a number of strategic locations. UNITA's intentions are aimed at an apparent show of force. In fact, UNITA lacks any strength.

Such an attitude means that our Armed Forces will redouble their efforts. The FAPLA is ready and determined to thwart the enemy's intentions, and it is capable of vigorously repelling any irresponsible attack.

At a time when the attainment of peace is the main goal, however, it is regrettable that more people are being killed and property being destroyed because of UNITA's total irresponsibility.

Accordingly, UNITA has deployed forces in the outskirts of Luena city. After clashing with our forces in Sacas-sanda area, UNITA units suffered 24 killed. Our forces have captured three UNITA members and seized 10 automatic rifles, one machine gun, one Land Rover equipped with a South African-made 106-mm gun, eight antitank missiles, 40 106-mm antitank shells, and other military equipment.

Our forces suffered three killed and nine wounded.

In addition to that, UNITA raided the capital of Quibala District on 30 March. On the same day, UNITA raided (Lucuma), Huambo Province, stealing 107 head of cattle.

On 31 March, UNITA raided Sao Joao Ward of Huambo City, destroying one house and a movie theater and plundering civilian property. On the same day, UNITA destroyed the bridge on (Canhora) River, 10.5 km south-east of Cuito, Bie Province.

In view of this grave situation created by UNITA, the Armed Forces of the People's Republic of Angola reserve the right to react accordingly in order to ensure the country's integrity and the citizenry's security.

UNITA Reports Clashes in Moxico Province

*MB0204195791 (Clandestine) KUP in English
to Southern and Central Africa 1900 GMT 2 Apr 91*

[Text] Jamba, Tuesday, April 2.....Twenty-six (26) MPLA [Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola] troops, including several officers, have been killed in five days of clashes with UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] forces in the eastern Angolan province of Moxico.

Reliable military sources revealed today that fighting flared up when MPLA troops attacked UNITA positions around the Moxico provincial capital town, Luena, in a bid to reoccupy UNITA controlled towns along the strategic Benguela railway. According to the sources, the MPLA forces appear to be bent on carrying out more

attacks on UNITA areas in contrast to growing calls for peace and the holding of free and fair elections in the country.

* Population Growth Affecting Education Sector

* Minister Reports

91AF0715A Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA
in Portuguese 20 Jan 91 p 3

[Text] Angolan Education Minister Antonio Burity da Silva said Friday in Luanda that the study of the population "is of vital importance to any country's development plan.

The Angolan official made this affirmation at the closing ceremony of the first population and social-planning seminar which was held from 14 to 18 January in this capital.

"In the period we are now facing," said Antonio Burity, "the difficult problems being encountered by the world's population have awakened interest in demographic studies."

He asserted that the United Nations predicts that the world's population will increase from its present figure of 5.3 billion to 6.3 billion.

"With regard to Angola," he said, "the question of overpopulation does not appear to be of immediate concern, although the country is not devoid of worries concerning population problems."

He stated that Angola has a very low life expectancy (45 years) and a very high infant mortality rate, approximately 135 per 1,000, as well as a fertility rate of about 6.3 children per woman and a population growth of 2.7 percent.

The education minister asserted that this population growth in Angola will result in high costs in demographic investments, involving an expansion in public services—namely, the construction of schools for 45 percent of the population less than 15 years of age.

"As a result, education is one of the sectors whose expenditures by the government will have to be increased as a result of greater demographic growth," said the minister.

Antonio Burity asserted that, to improve the situation of Angola's educational system, his ministry has prepared studies leading to the introduction of major reforms in the prevailing educational and teaching system.

The first population and social-planning seminar, promoted by the UN Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA) with the support of the directorate of Agostinho Neto University, was chaired by Ralph Hakert, technical adviser of UNFPA.

During the four days of the seminar, the participants received information regarding "population trends in

the world, in Africa, and in Angola concerning mortality, fertility, growth, and distribution of various segments of the population.

"Analytical instruments and the basic terminology of demography, demographic components, age structure, demographic density, overall and specific rates, life tables, life expectancy, overall fertility," and other subjects were also discussed.

* Population Figures

91AF0715B Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA
in Portuguese 30 Jan 91 p 3

[Text] More than half of the Angolan population, estimated at about 10 million inhabitants in 1990, are less than 15 years old.

This information was given during a communication on "Population Dynamics and Economic and Social Development" presented Monday at the seminar on "Training in Education on the Subject of Population for Family Life," initiated last week in Luanda.

According to this communication given by Luis Felipe Sousa Colaco, associate professor at the engineering department of Agostinho Neto University, of the 51.1 percent of the population less than 15 years of age, 22.1 percent involves children from birth to four years of age, while those in active service (15 to 59) make up 43 percent.

Persons of school age, including the third level (from five to 14 years of age), represent 29.3 percent of the country's population, in a ratio of 10 to 33 inhabitants.

"This high juvenile level of the Angolan population, and of African countries in general, is causing concern with regard to the level of dependence, and the reflections on our country's economic and social development are extremely negative," he said.

In Luis Sousa Colaco's opinion, the high birthrate occurring in African countries is exacerbating the living conditions of the people, the foreign debt, and, consequently, economic independence in general.

The country's birthrate amounts to roughly 48 per 1,000, while the mortality rate came to 21 per 1,000 in the period from 1985 to 1990; this represents a natural growth of 21 percent, a figure which the speaker considered high in relation to Angola's development level.

The population growth led to a rapid rejuvenation of the population, creating serious imbalances among the people of active age and those who were not capable of producing goods and services (the elderly and the children).

"A population increase of 1 percent requires a demographic investment of about 4 percent of the national income," to quote studies made by Carlos Rocha Dilolwa, teacher at Agostinho Neto University.

By "demographic investments" he means the combination of investments made for the education and protection of the children over the long term, such as schools, nurseries, hospitals, maternity wards, new dwellings, and others.

"Not having the capability of domestic accumulation, since the demographic investment would absorb all the potential savings, it becomes impossible—without worsening the foreign debt—to have new productive investments which would create jobs commensurate with the requirements of the labor market."

The population of school-age children (from five to 14 years of age) will increase from 2,153,000 in 1985 to 4,139,000 in 2005, whereas for the same period the active population will increase 73 percent, according to estimates.

* Bank Announces Circulation of New Coins

91AF0800C Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA
in Portuguese 28 Feb 91 p 1

[Text] In a communique issued yesterday, the National Bank of Angola announced that coins in denominations of 50 and 100 new kwanzas [NKZ] will soon be put into circulation nationwide. Their characteristics and markings are as stipulated in Law No. 1/91, approved by the People's Assembly on 5 February.

The 100-NKZ coins are 26 mm in diameter; they weigh 7 grams and are 1.7 mm in thickness. They contain 97 percent copper, 2.5 percent zinc, and 0.5 percent tin.

The 50-NKZ coins will be 2.5 percent zinc and only 0.5 percent tin and will weigh 5.5 grams. They will be 1.6 mm thick and 23 mm in diameter.

Regarding the appearance of the coins, the obverse will bear the insignia of the People's Republic of Angola and the face value of 100 NKZ and 50 NKZ, respectively, will be stamped on the reverse.

The government banking institution reports that the coins will be introduced gradually.

* Death Rate Rises in Lunda-Sul Hospital

91AF0800C Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA
in Portuguese 21 Feb 91 p 2

[Article by Jose Quaresma: "Poor Conditions Increase Death Rate"]

[Text] Saurimo—More than 10 people, including children and adults, die every day in this city because of the insufficient supply of medicines, lack of basic sanitation, and inadequate diet, factors that provoke such ailments as pulmonary tuberculosis, Angop [Angolan Press Agency] learned from an authorized source.

The source, who claimed the directorate of the provincial office of the Health Ministry was negligent, pointed to the gravity of the situation, resulting from the lack of

sophisticated medical means, such as oxygen, a blood bank, a laboratory for clinical analyses, and respirators. He also mentioned the deteriorated condition of the infrastructures, including the provincial hospital, as well as the closing of some medical posts in the other municipalities of the province.

Questioned as to the gravity of the situation, Antonio Dias dos Santos, the provincial delegate of the Health Ministry in Lunda-Sul, confirmed that the death rate in 1990 had risen 5 percent from the previous year, explaining that the province had received 29 tons of medicines in 1989, compared to only 29 tons last year, because of the difficulty in moving the medicines from Luanda, where they are now warehoused, to the province.

He noted that about 70 patients of both sexes are interned in the provincial hospital, most of whom are suffering from fractures, amputations, traumas, anemia, diarrhea, tuberculosis, malaria, or acute respiratory ailments. "in addition to facing shortages of beds, mattresses, and bedding."

After praising the efforts of the Provincial Directorate of Public Health and Epidemiological Control, as well as their vaccination brigades, in achieving almost total coverage in the vaccination campaigns, Dias dos Santos said that the Saurimo maternity and pediatric hospital was not functioning adequately. It is noted that the provincial hospital in Lunda-Sul has 10 physicians—six Vietnamese and four Angolans—who are general practitioners.

Meanwhile, it is lamentable that the single outpatient clinic at this hospital is used by just one Angolan physician, despite the large flow of patients, and that water from the single cistern that supplies the hospital is being sold at speculative prices to the surrounding neighborhoods.

* 'Economic Crimes' Increasing in Kwanza-Norte

91AF0643E Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA
in Portuguese 16 Jan 91 p 3

[Article by Isidoro Natalicio: "Economic Crimes On the Agenda"]

[Text] The Province of Kwanza-Norte has lately been the scene of a number of crimes of an economic nature, some of which, due to their magnitude, have captured the attention of the local population as well as people beyond the area. For this reason, these people are anxiously awaiting the outcome of these matters.

However, the judicial handling of such matters on the part of the organizations set up for that purpose have not lived up to expectations, given the obvious slowness, even in those cases that are apparently amenable to a brief and expeditious investigation, which, keeping in mind the long time that they have been dragging on, may

break wide open with the first sources of proof. Furthermore, public opinion admits that such a delay may be due to the possible connivance of some local leaders who, if they were to be exposed, would give rise to a scandal of unprecedented sociopolitical scope.

In the memory of the long-suffering people of the province is engraved the timely denunciation of some improper acts such as the "Fatima case," headed by Alberto de Fatima Sampaio, the former provincial delegate from the Ministry of Commerce, who is accused of transporting three tons of commercial coffee to one of the country's ports, possibly for commercial purposes abroad. If each 60-kilo sack of coffee were sold for \$55, such an amount would have netted him at least \$3,000.

On the same occasion, in 1988, he was further accused of embezzling tons of diverse merchandise intended for the co-ops, as well as six million kwanzas for the creation of an supposed beer agency in Kambambe.

The "CVA case": In 1987, the embezzlement of 56 bundles of used clothing out of a total of nearly 2,000 different pieces was confirmed, as well as two boxes of shoes (about 100 pairs) from the local delegation of the CVA (Red Cross of Angola) which were intended for people who have lost their property, their homes, or have been displaced from the region. Nearly 330 million kwanzas are supposed to have been collected on the black market since at that time one bundle was worth 600,000 kwanzas. The delegate from the branch, Abilio Manuel, is being held as an accomplice in addition to standing accused of illegal use of large sums of money from the sector.

The "Kikulungo case": This case was headlined last year by the first secretary of the Party and municipal commissar of Kikulungo, Antonio Aguiar, who was accused of embezzling and storing merchandise that was intended for the people of the region in an illegal place.

The "Manauto-60 case": This case has three facets, the first consisting of the embezzlement of a vast amount of accessories for vehicles of the makes Roubour, IFA, Volvo, and Nissan, among others, involving the amount of 7,511,000 kwanzas.

The second facet of the case consisted of the embezzlement of tires in quantities that were not indicated, and the third facet also dealt with tires with their respective inner tubes in the number of 122 units, which were presumably traded on the black markets of Luanda at that time (1989) at 100,000 former kwanzas each.

Finally, there is the widely-discussed "Dondo case," in which members of the Executive Commission of the Municipal Committee of the Kambambe Party are implicated. They stand accused of embezzling more than 2,000 cases of beer that were intended for the usual consumption of the people, also in 1989.

According to the accusers, possibly the people of Dondo, the above-mentioned beer was diverted in order to be exchanged for VCR's for personal use.

The tide of facts illustrates that perhaps such questions are badly phrased. When all is said and done, where are the "brakes" for the progressive course of these cases? With regard to this investigation, here is how some high local officials from the judicial sector reacted to our question:

According to Rodrigues Coelho, the provincial director of the Criminal Investigation Police: "I think that the police have already sent some cases on to the court. The 'Dondo case' is not our responsibility; it lies with State Security or with the Military Attorney General's office. With regard to the 'Kikulungo case,' a large number of the accusations are not true.... We have concluded that, insofar as crime goes, there is nothing to it, and the case is closed."

As for the "Manauto-60 case," he stated that "we have already sent it on to the Prosecuting Police Department to be solved, and it is possibly already in the courts. Also, a large number of these cases have been given amnesty under the protection of the above-mentioned law. The 'Fatima case' and the 'CVA case' have been dealt with in Luanda, the localities in which the respective crimes were committed."

Almerindo de Almeida, the provincial director of the Prosecuting Police Department, said: "We have a series of causes that are leading to delays in bringing these trials to court, namely, the lack of transportation and the locating of the people involved in the trial, due to the fact that they reside outside that district. With regard to the cases, the 'CVA case' has been tried in Luanda, the locale in which the incident occurred."

"With regard to the 'Fatima case,' that trial was held here. It has moved very slowly because it was under criminal investigation. After the above-mentioned trial was sent to us, we sent it on to Luanda, where the case had also been reported, and where there was already a more advanced case file. The case is far advanced. Furthermore, the defendants are currently out on bail, but I think that they have not yet been tried."

According to him, with regard to the "Manauto-60 case," there have been guarantees from the delegate from the Ministry of Transportation in helping us out with vehicles to be used in locating the defendants, in spite of the fact that rumor says that one of them has not been arrested. In this trial, members of the general management of Abamat are implicated, and there are also indications that local officials from the Ministry of Transportation may be implicated.

The "Kikulungo case" is being handled by Criminal Investigation. They sent a case file down to us that did not contain the necessary evidence. The delays in many of these cases are being attributed to the local structure of the Office of the Attorney General of the Republic,

which does not draw up the indictments in a timely manner. Furthermore, in the 10th session of the Provincial People's Assembly, we proved that," concluded Almerindo de Almeida.

Finally, Joao Jose Antonio, the attorney general of the Republic at the level of the municipality of Kazengo (Ndalatando), said that in the organization that he heads, there is no criminal trial with regard to CVA, but last November, the attorney general's office received information coming from that institution claiming that it was not the perpetrator of the embezzlement in question, contrary to what the provincial authorities think, but rather the truck driver who picked up the merchandise from the warehouses in Luanda. The "Kikulungo case" is under the jurisdiction of the Prosecuting Police Department," he pointed out.

With regard to the "Manauto-60 case," he stressed that at the provincial level, the transportation sector is the one that is having the greatest problem with embezzlement and the illegal use of patrimony. "We have a trial in which the perpetrator is the provincial delegate himself, Pascoal Van-Dunem, and it is possible that in the course of the first four months of the current year, he will find himself sitting at the defendant's table. We do not have any details concerning the Fatima case," he concluded.

However, it has been learned that there are cases which, due to their degree of complexity, are being dealt with at the level of other judicial organizations, namely, State Security, the Office of the Attorney General, and the Military Tribunal. The "Dondo case" fits into that mold. For example, an official from Minse [Ministry of State Security] who has become well known in the case said that there are indications that the crime did occur. Furthermore, the only obstacle in the development of the above-mentioned matter is the delay in withdrawing the respective immunities which had already been proposed a long time ago to the central structures of the Party.

As a result of all this, the facts are undeniable and it becomes imperative to resolve these cases so that moral damage to the imprudent can be avoided and so that sentences can be handed down to the transgressors in accordance with the severity of their acts and without regard to the public positions that each of them held.

* Benguela Faces Declining Supply of Medicines

91AF0800B Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA
in Portuguese 28 Feb 91 p 3

[Text] Benguela Province has not received any medicines from the National Directorate and Angomedica for more than a year, Esmeralda Monteiro, provincial delegate of the Health Ministry, reported in this city [not named]. According to the delegate, in recent times the province has only received some medicines donated by UNICEF and by the ASDI (Swedish Agency for Industrial Development). Esmeralda Monteiro explained that the monthly allocation of \$15 million from the local

government for the acquisition of medicines is not enough to guarantee a regular supply for the health posts.

* Report on Uije Economy Describes Crisis

91AF0800A Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA
in Portuguese 28 Feb 91 p 3

[Article by David Felipe: "Agriculture in Trouble"]

[Text] Uije (from our correspondent)—The agricultural production levels achieved in 1990 fell far short of projected plans, according to an agriculture document distributed to JORNAL DE ANGOLA in this city.

Contributing to this drop in production, in which the peasant and state sectors achieved 43.9 percent of the planned goal, was the poor technical-material supply (ATM).

According to the document, despite various efforts, the ATM was not materially improved in some respects, since the quantity of farm implements received did not meet the needs of the peasants.

According to the report, the poor ATM was also linked to the difficulty in moving the equipment from Luanda to the province, as well as a shortage of certain items in the domestic market.

It is noted that Uije Province has not had tractors, plows, and harrows since 1986. In the 1990/1991 agricultural year, because of the worsening political-military situation in certain producing areas, the peasant sector will have only 48 peasant associations, with 4,145 members.

It is known, however, that the 161 small producers located in areas where farming is a possibility in the two municipalities (Uije/Negage) plan to plant 655.4 hectares in food crops.

Unfortunately, despite the attention which the government has given to the matter, problems of various kinds have prevented the producer in the region from placing his product on the market, and this has had negative repercussions for the socioeconomic development of the rural community.

Joao Xavier, Agriculture Ministry delegate in this province, said that the rural marketing process had not been profitable during the 1989/1990 agricultural year; he noted that the poor stock of merchandise to barter [for farm produce] had led to a significant drop of about 17 percent in production rates.

The products marketed—beans, corn, "rena" potatoes, sweet potatoes, and other produce—totaled 1,282.94 tons.

Lumber

In the past two years the Agriculture Ministry has made about 16.5 million kwanzas available to the EMA-Uije lumber company. The money was to be converted into foreign currency (dollars) for the acquisition of all the

equipment needed for the rehabilitation of the Negage sawmill and another mill in Quitexe Municipio.

We have learned that the request for dollars is limited to a number of higher agencies, through documents forwarded to the Northern Front Command and to the Ministry of Agriculture.

Domestic consumption of lumber in Uije Province is hampered by the difficulty in transporting the logs. Hence, despite the availability of wood, the carpenters in the province are faced with a shortage of milled lumber.

Meanwhile, with regard to cattle, livestock activity in the province, at the state level, is limited to the Negage agricultural enterprise. The other livestock sectors, such as the hog and poultry sectors, are completely idle for lack of feed, among other things, which is further impeding any improvement in the diet of the population.

In light of the new philosophy and the need to stimulate small private agricultural activity, 155 head of cattle have been sold to 11 small livestock farmers—all that remain of the 252 small cattle farmers that once existed in the province.

Veterinary medicines are lacking in quantity and quality, leading to the death of 78 head of cattle. On the other hand, despite the small number of cattle in the province, there were still slaughter requisitions last year. About 123 head of cattle were slaughtered in that period.

Supervision of Associations

Associative production, now in the form of associations by type of crop, has confronted problems arising from various factors.

To create the bases for stimulating small private activity, the Agriculture Ministry conducted a census of small producers in the various municipalities of the province.

According to the data supplied by the Agriculture Ministry's provincial office of planning, there are currently 362 small producers, exploiting 18,868 hectares, with a labor force of about 6,030 peasants.

The level of organization and functioning of these small agricultural enterprises is still low, as a result, on one hand, of a lack of attention from the government in recent years and, on the other hand, inadequate technical-material means, which are essential for this activity.

To improve the organization of the small producers, under the guidance of the National Union of Angolan Peasants (UNACA), the council of small producers has been created in Uije Province, within the EDA's (Rural Development Stations).

The Provincial Commission allocated 15 million kwanzas to the agriculture sector for the expansion of green belts.

It is known that the sum was used to acquire the raw material for the manufacture of animal rations, two IFA

[Italian Food Aid] trucks, and motor pumps. Some individuals who benefited from the purchases have not met the deadline for reimbursing the funds, because they are in precarious economic circumstances.

Efforts are under way to see that these debts are paid during the first quarter of this year.

Most of the producing enterprises in the provincial delegacy of the Agriculture Ministry are in financial straits, since they have not been able to bring in enough revenue to meet their expenses.

During last year, earned revenues from all the Agriculture Ministry enterprises came to only 85.6 percent of general expenditures. We learned, however, that 12,630,651 NKZ [new kwanzas] went to pay wages in arrears.

Given the financial problems of many enterprises in the sector, the provincial delegacy of the Finance Ministry made 33.75 million NKZ available for the payment of wages.

Poor Receipt of Perishables

The Agriculture Ministry delegacy here in Uije has a wholesale agent who deals in perishable products and who channeled 136.85 tons of various perishables to the region in 1990.

Considering local needs, this is a very small quantity for a population estimated at 1.3 million inhabitants. The great difficulty in supplying perishables to the province is attributed to the lack of transportation.

Regarding the sale of perishables, about five retail agents have been recruited, who are taking an active part in distributing the products.

Environmental Preservation

A brigade from the Institute of Forestry Development is operating in the province and has developed several actions to preserve the environment.

Noteworthy actions include the establishment of a nursery for a variety of plants. It has already produced 4,000 ornamental palm saplings, 449 saplings of ornamental trees, and 2,200 fruit tree saplings.

A five-year forestation program has already been drawn up for the province for 1991/1995 and has been forwarded to the ministry for consideration; if the financing is forthcoming, the program will cover the devastated areas.

The [forestry development] sector licenses concessionaires for various forestry products, monitors compliance with the law regarding the exploitation of natural resources and levies fines for infractions of the law.

Activities in the sector earned 3,599,260 NKZ in revenues last year for the General State Budget (OGE). In the period under analysis, 29 ivory tusks were received from various parts of the province and 25 of them have already been sent to the responsible agency.

*** Zaire Province Economic Potential Viewed**

91AF0766A Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA
in Portuguese 26 Feb 91 p 2

[Article by Isidoro Natalicio]

[Text] Soyo (From our special correspondents)—Located in northwestern Angola in an area of 40,130 square kilometers [km], Zaire province is bordered on the north by the Republic of Zaire, on the south by the province of Bengo and on the east and west by Uije province and the Atlantic Ocean, respectively.

With a predominantly mountainous topography rich in agriculture and cattle-raising, Zaire province is comprised of some 400,000 inhabitants primarily speaking the Kikongo language, spread throughout six municipalities, Mbanza-Congo (the capital), Soyo, Nzeto, Tomboco, Kuimba, and Noqui.

There is evidence that this province has the greatest economic potential in the country, particularly in oil, phosphate, copper, asphalt, granite, and iron. There are also enormous forest resources, the richest fishing reserves in the north, and excellent regions for tourism.

Despite this potential, Zaire province fell to abandonment during the colonial period, a condition that has persisted during national independence through the ignorance, in some circumstances, of some of the country's economic bodies.

In light of this situation, an annual socioeconomic development program was conceived in fiscal year 1990 for the first time, comprising a package of 56 activities covering practically every sector. These activities include measures for organizing and consolidating the governmental apparatus, technical assistance, providing services, and rehabilitating and building infrastructure.

The construction sector, considered a decisive factor in the execution of this program, leading the way with ten activities, including, among other things, rehabilitating the Mbanza-Congo highway, assembling a new sawmill in Quele, constructing a terra-cotta plant, producing lime, and repairing four intermunicipal road sections.

However, practically nothing has been implemented because of the functional incapability of the former local Ministry of Construction delegation.

The transportation and communications sector, with eight activities, has not made satisfactory progress either, the most notable exception being the importation of accessories for rehabilitating the vehicle fleet, consisting of 20 trucks and 10 Land Rovers.

Also imported were eight light vehicles for government officials, the fruit of an oil production "bonus" in Soyo, from which the province benefits from a certain percentage, last year totalling \$1.6 million.

The education and health sectors, however, experienced some success worthy of recounting. For example, a Middle

Polytechnic Institute could be finished next month in that municipality. The buildings being constructed consist of eight rooms and two offices, are the responsibility of Soares da Costa builders, and are budgeted at \$600,000, to be financed by the Zaire Provincial Commissariat.

Within the regional development framework, machinery and saws to manufacture school furniture will be assembled in Mbanza-Congo and Soyo. Meanwhile, the local government has provided \$300,000 for the acquisition of an additional wing for the provincial hospital, as well as \$90,000 to fight Tripanosso-maise, the principal cause of the province's high mortality rate.

In general, the level of completion of the province's economic and social development program is estimated at 35 percent. So many of the activities will continue into the fiscal year beginning in April, including the following: Supply of potable water to the provinces; improvements in the various hydraulic networks; supply of electricity to Mbanza-Congo after completion of the Inga hydroelectric dam in the Republic of Zaire and in Soyo; and improved sanitation and public beautification programs through the importation of drainage systems, containers and other items; in the agricultural sector, implementation of the Agricultural Development Stations (EDA), the attempted draining of the ATM [technical-material supply], and a strengthening of cattle-raising activities; and in the transportation sector, plans call for rehabilitation of the Transhorizonte Telecommunications system, suspended two years ago, with the telegraph office network and the acquisition of 12 cars, eight of which are for intermunicipal routes.

There are also plans for daily TAAG [Angolan Airlines] operations to Mbanza-Congo and modernization of the airport infrastructure. However, some activities call for the completion of linked tasks such as the rehabilitation of sporting installations, museums, the palace, and others, thus implying a package of approximately 80 activities. However, various activities require detailed technical-economic feasibility studies and legal rulings within the framework of the business reorientation.

Financial estimates, though insufficient, are significant, since in addition to the Regional Development and Small Economic Activity framework, the central government is studying the possibility of granting the province an additional total of \$5 million and 450 million new kwanzas for development programs.

*** Huambo Commissar on Economic Situation**

91AF0643C Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA
in Portuguese 15 Jan 91 p 3

[Article by Julio Gomes: "Selfishness Must Be Combated"]

[Text] The provincial commissar of Huambo, Lieutenant Colonel Osvaldo de Jesus Serra Van-Dunem, said recently that there still persists a certain selfishness on the part of some officials in the province's commercial activity.

Serra Van-Dunem argued that there are appropriate principles of distribution that must be observed in order for there to be a reasonable satisfaction of the people's needs. For this reason, it is necessary to engage in energetic combat against certain procedures that only make the better supply of food and industrial goods more difficult.

However, speaking on the occasion of the end of the year, he said that, in spite of the different factors of economic strangulation, 1990 can be considered a positive year. Even though significant advances in the various areas of socioeconomic life may not have been achieved, the Province of Huambo experienced a privileged situation, since it has been possible to apply an inherent methodology to the improvement of economic and defense structures.

The provincial commissar, who did not explicitly spell out which areas had made progress throughout the year, pointed to some organizational aspects whose appearance may provide qualitative changes in the lives of the citizens.

In fact, the poor capability to transport raw materials as well as basic necessities was negatively reflected in the production figures for the industrial sector and in supplying food to the people of this province.

This situation, in conjunction with the intensification of the acts of sabotage of UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] terrorists, has caused a financial decrease on the order of 904 million new kwanzas.

Analyzing the effects of the drought that has scourged this region, he stressed that, thanks to aid from humanitarian organizations along with the efforts of the local government, it has been possible to alleviate the famine for hundreds of people.

"Being one of the urgent resources to alleviate the effects of the drought, humanitarian aid from any organization will be welcome," he said.

* Panguila Bridge Reconstruction Under Way

91AF0643G Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA
in Portuguese 16 Jan 91 p 3

[Text] Reconstruction work on the Panguila bridge, which was partially destroyed in an attack perpetrated by UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] last 28 November, is moving forward at a good pace, Angop [Angolan Press Agency] learned on site. Because of the pace of the construction work, however, it is assumed that the reopening of the bridge will take place during the first four months of the current year. The technical team refused to furnish Angop with any details concerning the progress of the work or the amount of money needed to rebuild the bridge. The bridge is located 13 km from the municipality of Cac-uaco (in the province of Luanda), and the National

Bridge Company (ENP) is in charge of the reconstruction work. It should be remembered that since it was destroyed, access between the provinces of Luanda and Bengo has been maintained across an alternate bridge.

* Cabinda Electric Power Network Improving

91AF0643F Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA
in Portuguese 16 Jan 91 p 3

[Text] In an interview with JORNAL DE ANGOLA, Abraao Sumbo Sebastiao, the administrative director of the National Electrical Construction Company (Encel) in Cabinda, said that, in the near future, Encel expects to increase its activity constructing and setting up electrical networks at the provincial level if it can get a reliable supply of materials.

According to this official, the unreliability of the transportation of electrical material from Luanda to Cabinda has been forcing company officials to go back to importing them directly based on a ceiling approved by the local government and the national board of directors of Encel, with the result that three low-tension transformers from Portugal have already arrived in Cabinda.

Created the year before last in this province, Encel's principal projects in its portfolio are the construction of energy transmission lines from Malongo to Sassa-Zau, from Cabassango to Subantando, and from Cabinda to Yema, as well as the completion of the project to replace the cables on the first Malongo-to-Cabinda transmission line which was started at the beginning of last year, and the topographical survey for the second Malongo-to-Cabinda line.

Under the direction of the Ministry of Energy and Petroleum, the National Electrical Construction Company was mainly responsible in 1989 for setting up a rural transformer post in the residential area of the commune of Malembo, in the municipality of Cabinda.

* Van Dunem Praises Red Cross Work

91AF0722B Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA
in Portuguese 29 Jan 91 p 2

[Text] In Luanda, Angolan Minister of Planning Fernando Franca Van Dunem expressed the gratitude of his government for the long and fruitful activity and cooperation of the International Red Cross Committee (CICV) in Angola.

Franca Van Dunem—who is also coordinator for emergency aid in Angola—made his comments during the meeting with Pierre Gassmann, the CICV's delegate-general for Africa.

He emphasized that the Angolan Government is concerned about the fate of its fellow countrymen who have been affected by the war and the drought.

He called for the emergency humanitarian aid to be administered for the benefit of all Angolans, regardless of the region where they currently reside in the national territory.

The minister of planning gave assurances that his government will speedily implement its findings and that he would give consideration to the CICV's programs, in view of Angola's long and positive experience with the work of the Red Cross.

The CICV delegation manifested concern about the current inability to carry out activities designed to bring aid to the population affected by the natural disasters and the war, especially in the provinces of Bie, Huambo, Kuando Kubango, and Benguela.

The members of the delegation expressed the intention of their organization to continue these activities, and reasserted their total independence from any other program of emergency aid.

The CICV delegates noted with satisfaction that the Angolan Government had assigned priority to the emergency aid program. They expressed the hope that the approximately 300 foreign and Angolan workers associated with their organization could resume all their activities on an emergency basis.

Since September 1990 the CICV has distributed more than 1,000 metric tons of food, and 500 metric tons of seed, in the municipalities of Huambo Province and elsewhere in southwest Angola.

The CICV also has more than 5,000 metric tons of food stored in the provinces of Huambo, Bie, and Benguela, and 400 metric tons of food and seed in Kuando Kubango.

*** Health Situation in Negage 'Catastrophic'**

91AF0643B Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA
in Portuguese 15 Jan 91 p 3

[Article by David Filipe: "Health Is a Catastrophe"]

[Text] The Negage sanitary system is not meeting the needs of the whole population in general and of each citizen in particular.

Last year, the government of the municipality, worried about the people's health, decided to give priority to the construction of first-aid stations in the two communes of Quisque and Dimuna.

In the period in question, two health centers were built, as well as 15 first-aid stations which lack medication, health promoters, and metal sheets for roofing.

During the time that we remained in Negage, we visited the municipal hospital. The first section was the emergency room, where service is rendered night and day by nurses who have many years of experience.

The number of doctors (three) is not sufficient to attend to the nearly 300 persons who come to the hospital every week. The in-patients are poorly fed, and furthermore there is no adequate food for the patients.

It is sad to note that the beds do not have any covers or sheets, and the few that they have are torn.

A general analysis allows us to understand that the Ministry of Commerce in the province of Uije is responsible for the suffering that is occurring in the province's hospitals. Some officials of this food branch are worried about channeling the products to the black market.

A source at the Negage Municipal Health Delegation told us that a requisition to attend to the hospital's logistics is "downgraded" by the Ministry of Commerce. The source stressed that with this type of operation, the mortality rate in the province is going to increase considerably.

From the nutritional point of view, the elements furnished by the chief nurse make it evident that, in a general way, food in Negage is short on calories, iron, and calcium.

We also learned that the diseases that are the most predominant are malaria, anemia, and infectious, parasitical, and respiratory diseases.

Mortality is due especially to these diseases of the digestive tract (especially infant diarrhea) and other poorly-defined causes.

*** Situation of Lubango Science Institute Viewed**

91AF0722D Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA
in Portuguese 29 Jan 91 p 2

[Article by Cesar Andre and Leonel Kassana: "ISCED Attempts to Surmount the Crisis"]

[Text] Lubango (Our bureau)—Pedro Peterson, director of the Higher Institute of Educational Sciences (Isced) in Lubango, told us that since its creation in 1980 the Institute has trained a total of 300 specialists in Education, Psychology, Mathematics, Physics, Biology, Chemistry, Geography, Philosophy, and Languages.

According to its director, Isced—which in the current academic year has only 43 instructors (including eight cooperation personnel) for a student body of 508—is facing enormous difficulties, principally the need for better living conditions in its residence hall, equipment for its laboratories, and greater attention to its cadres, principally in respect to systematic advanced training with participation in internship programs abroad and

international conferences, because, in his own words, "education enters a new stage of development every five years."

Enrollment has been increasing from year to year, and today the only residence hall—with 150 beds—has difficulty receiving any more students from other provinces or even from the municipalities in Huila Province.

The JORNAL DE ANGOLA was able to see for itself that some classrooms have been converted into dormitories, primarily for those finalists who are most interested in concluding their respective courses and returning to their areas of origin.

Some instructors have to share the same dormitories with their students—a situation which many believe is simply unacceptable. Moreover, the meals are very poorly prepared, because the food—which is supplied by Dinaprove [National Farm and Animal Products Distribution Company], Edipesca [expansion not given], and the Ministry of Agriculture—is inadequate.

We were told by one student—who wished to remain anonymous—that as an alternative the students have been obliged to prepare their meals in their respective lodgings, whenever it is possible to "make arrangements for a stove and food."

Despite various difficulties, Isced—which receives students from secondary institutions, teacher-training schools, and university preparatory schools—is committed to improving the quality of the instruction it provides, and in accordance with the new educational model is promoting the baccalaureate and the licentiate.

Pedro Peterson also said that off-campus instruction had to be discontinued because, he said, "we must first improve the on-campus instruction." He added that "the shortage of transportation facilities for the distribution of supplementary printed materials both from Luanda to here (Lubango) and to other localities rendered off-campus instruction futile."

"In order to obtain more authoritative teaching at the practical level by training—in effect—a work force skilled in the educational sciences," Peterson said, "we are implementing a policy of competitive and selective instruction and thereby ensuring the creation of conditions that favor an increase in quality."

Without going into detail, the Isced director explained that the institution he heads is seriously committed to becoming more receptive to the innovations and creativity of the faculty and student body, with a view to implementing the nation's policy on education and research.

He said, however, that the Isced has a package of measures that among other things provides for enlarging its existing classrooms and constructing new ones, with funding from UNESCO and the African Development Bank.

When asked about support for the Isced from the provincial governmental organs, Pedro Peterson indicated that it was virtually nil. "We have to cope with a complete insensitivity on the part of governmental organizations that ought to be supporting us," he declared. "Sometimes I lose more time running after the other government agencies than I spend on the activities of the Institute."

A Legendary Institution

The present-day Isced is an institution inherited from the former School of Letters, which was abolished in 1979 by decision of the First Congress of the MPLA [Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola]. It today has a number of branches throughout the country.

At the time of its creation in 1980, Isced had only 17 instructors (three of whom were Angolan nationals) for a total of 145 students, and a poorly differentiated service staff that included only three mid-level technicians.

At that time, a number of changes were made in the structure of the institution as well as in the curricula and course content that were the result of limited experience in the areas of organization and the educational sciences, while at the same time a process of total subordination to foreign cooperation was taking place (with some exceptions, of course).

Ten years later Isced quantitatively increased its domestic instructional staff, with a consequent reduction in foreign cooperation, while the number of students was gradually increasing. The curricula and course content became more stable, while three interprovincial centers (Luanda, Lubango, and Huambo) were created to provide for the extension of the teaching of the educational sciences.

What of the Future?

A report recently prepared in connection with Isced's 10th anniversary and to which JORNAL DE ANGOLA had access reveals for us a rather ambitious program for the future of the nation's only institution of higher learning in the area of education.

Basically, Isced aspires to more autonomy and better management of its material, human, and financial resources together with an increasingly perceptible difference in its institutional profile, in accordance with the new educational model that it is promoting for itself: two levels—the baccalaureate and the licentiate—as we have previously stated.

Also in the offing is an intensification of relations with similar institutions throughout the world.

The report further states that ever since its creation Isced has had "golden ages" and periods of crisis, featured by the first "science and knowledge" week (in the academic year 1981-82), immediately following which—at a time when there were only 172 students and a faculty of

13—it had to incorporate all the monitors into the teaching profession, which led to the discontinuance of certain courses.

Isced took on new life in 1984-85 with the training of its first cadres, which went on to staff the departments, sectors, and various commissions.

The report also records that a conference was held to reformulate the courses being taught at Isced, and also a national conference on Science and Education.

Scientific research, however, is not going well at Isced, and the explanation has to do with factors of an institutional nature; the lack of a coordinated structure for the institution as a whole; the training of the domestic teacher corps; the concept of the programs of study; and the methodology of education, among others.

Another obstacle to better research work is the critical lack of library facilities, up-to-date magazine files, and other sources of information.

The Isced report goes on to say that other factors making research difficult are the lack of a majority Angolan "critical mass" with postgraduate training that would be capable of stimulating and developing the departmental research projects fully and comprehensively without reference to the brief stay of the foreign instructors at the institution.

All this would seem to explain, among other things, the serious difficulties that the students are having in the preparation, presentation, and defense of their theses for the licentiate.

The words of Pedro Peterson are illustrative. "Of the 300 students trained at Isced," he said, "only 157 defended their theses."

We also asked the Isced director to comment on the cases of "brain drain" that have occurred in a province that has great academic traditions. He replied that the phenomenon had diminished significantly. "These persons," he explained, "are gradually being placed in the jobs for which they are suited."

* Prison Services Hold Consultative Conference

* Provincial Representation

91AF0720A Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA
in Portuguese 30 Jan 91 p 3

[Text] The recovery, reeducation, and social rehabilitation of individuals deprived of liberty for having broken our society's rules of conduct on a certain occasion, and for the most varied reasons, are among the topics to be given special attention at the 13th Expanded Consultative Conference on Prison Services. It was opened yesterday at the Athletic Club in Luanda by the national director of prison services, Antonio Aguiar.

The participants in the meeting, which drew 37 delegates from the country's various provinces (out of the 40 originally planned), are discussing the implementation of the decisions from the previous meeting. They are also studying the resizing and strategy of the National Directorate of Prison Services [DNSP], in view of the government's new policy, as well as the status of cadres. In addition, they are analyzing the escapes made from the country's prison units.

The presentation of the model plan (a proposal for conditional release), the discussion, amendment, and approval of the annual report, and the analysis of the structure and organic regulations of the DNSP are other matters scheduled for the order of business at the meeting. It is being held based on the slogan, "For an increasingly organized, dynamic, and active prison system, let us hold the DNSP's 13th Consultative Conference."

During the course of his remarks, Antonio Aguiar, discussing the topic of sociopolitical and economic changes in the country, noted that the analysis of work accomplished by the DNSP throughout recent years must be made objectively. The causes and factors influencing the action taken for reeducation and social rehabilitation of all individuals deprived of liberty cannot be overlooked.

On the other hand, he stressed that certain phenomena, such as the lack of motivation among cadres, in view of the insensitivity that has been shown toward the sector's problems, have created situations marked by acquiescence and a certain laissez-faire spirit. This has given rise to bribery and corruption, which have been fought insofar as possible, yet without attaining the desired results.

He declared: "At this major event, there must be serious reflection on those matters. Without it, all the initiatives for a profitable, satisfactory execution of the activities in the sector involved will be jeopardized."

The national director of prison services underscored the need for the participants to become aware that the process that is, and will be under way in the PRA will not tolerate the dialogues that we may hold here and there in idle chatter. "We must act, and what we do will have to be quite visible."

Present at the meeting, the adjournment of which is set for late tomorrow afternoon, were certain officials from the Interior Ministry and guests.

* New Political Realities

91AF0720B Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA
in Portuguese 31 Jan 91 p 3

[Text] The work of the 13th Expanded Consultative Conference of the National Directorate of Prison Services, which opened last Tuesday in Luanda, continued yesterday. It dealt with the conclusions drawn from the work done by the three committees assigned to discuss

and analyze the various points on the work agenda, and their presentation of the reports in a plenary session.

Thus, the annual report and that evaluating the implementation of decisions from the previous meetings, submitted by the first committee, were approved without any amendment.

The second committee was responsible for debating the new bill on organic regulations, now geared to the new sociopolitical and economic realities under way in the country, and aimed at providing the DNSP with a new strategy in its operation. A discussion of the status of cadres was also scheduled.

As for the resizing of the DNSP, considering the fact that this is a complex activity, the participants in the meeting deemed it fitting to form a committee that would submit a report within a 20-day period. The latter would cover, among other measures, those to improve prison conditions, to introduce the technical and material resources required for the exercise of the activity, and to improve the personnel's working conditions.

The second committee's spokesman, Antonio Armando, broached the possibility of implementing measures for the adoption of a legal instrument to guide the activity. A memorandum dealing primarily with the status of cadre recruitment and training, as well as their technical-occupational profile, was approved.

The uniform system proposed for conditional release, a document submitted at a plenary session by the third committee, was approved with minor amendments. That committee also discussed the decentralization of authority for awarding conditional releases and furlough passes, and the problem of escapes from the country's prison units.

The second point (decentralization of authority for awarding conditional releases and furlough passes) was also subjected to some amendments. The assembly recommended that those engaged in that activity (with offices in the country's various provinces) visit the capital to hold a seminar in the near future, to be scheduled within the next 20 days.

The assignment of technical resources, specifically, vehicles and various communications equipment, pressure on the unit administrations to perform their tasks regularly, and an improvement in the workers' social conditions to prevent bribery were measures suggested by the delegates. They did so after having debated and analyzed in depth the policy on escapes, which have occurred in some of the country's prison units.

The closing session for the meeting is set for late this afternoon.

* Corruption, Bribery Discussed

91AF0720C Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA
in Portuguese 1 Feb 91 p 2

[Text] The 13th Expanded Consultative Conference of the National Directorate of Prison Services, which opened last Tuesday, ended its work yesterday. Those participating in it concluded that the inadequate social conditions for the personnel, bribery, corruption, and the low level of stringency among the units and, primarily, on the upper and middle echelons, were the main factors underlying the escapes from prison units on the national level.

Considering the unstable living conditions prevailing among the prison population, specifically with regard to their food supply, medical care and medications, and infrastructure, the participants in the meeting recommended the adoption of measures to correct those situations effectively.

The conference observed that the presence, in prison units, of large numbers of inmates on a preventive incarceration basis has hampered the taking of action aimed at successful achievement of the inmates' reeducation and rehabilitation into society. It called for bringing this situation to the attention of the agencies administering justice.

It should be noted that 37 delegates from the country's various provinces participated in the meeting, out of the 40 originally planned. The conference was held based on the slogan, "For an increasingly organized, dynamic, and active prison system, let us hold the DNSP's 13th Consultative Conference."

During his brief closing remarks, Antonio Aguiar, national director of prison services, called upon the participants to implement all the resolutions emerging from the meeting, for the good of the society. He then reviewed a series of points inherent in the agency's activity.

* Airline To Resume Flights to Cunene Province

91AF0800F Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA
in Portuguese 20 Feb 91 p 16

[Text] Lubango (Huila)—Next Saturday, Angolan Airlines (TAAG) will resume passenger flights on the Luanda-Lubango-Xangongo (Cunene Province) route, which have been suspended for 10 years. Angop [Angolan Press Agency] has learned from a reliable source.

On 16 February, TAAG sent a Fokker-type plane on a test site, carrying 24 passengers to the locale of Xangongo, the temporary seat of Cunene Province; the air fare was 5,900 NKZ [new kwanzas] for the 30-minute flight.

On the same day, TAAG station director Miranda Garcao met with the local authorities to discuss the creation of basic infrastructures for the safe arrival and departure of passengers.

The runway at the Xangongo airport is 2,000 meters long and about 800 meters wide. According to TAAG specialists, the conditions are favorable for the landing of medium-sized planes, such as the Fokker.

The next flight (the inaugural flight) will carry the TAAG station chiefs, company director Mario Rogerio Von-Haff, and other officials.

* Corn From Zaire Rots in Cunene Warehouses

01AF0800E Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA
in Portuguese 20 Feb 91 p 2

[Text] Lubango (from our bureau)—About 5 tons of corn, donated by the Republic of Zaire to assist the drought victims in Cunene Province, is rotting in Xangongo and in the commune of Omba-Yomungo. JORNAL DE ANGOLA has learned from an official source.

The source explained that the spoilage is the result of the extremely poor storage conditions and the delay in planning and distribution of the corn to the people who are in such great need.

A similar situation occurred recently in the Domestic Trade Ministry warehouses in Cunene and in Xangongo, when a huge quantity of corn flour rotted and was later dumped into the Cunene River.

"This is deplorable," lamented one of the people affected by the damage caused by the negligence of certain provincial officials.

* Italy Aids Health Projects in Namibe, Cunene

91AF0800G Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA
in Portuguese 20 Feb 91 p 16

[Text] Namibe—The Italian Government has made more than \$6 million (at 30 new kwanzas to the dollar) available to finance health aid programs for the residents of Namibe and Cunene provinces.

According to Ambrosio Capapinha, provincial delegate of the Health Ministry in Namibe, the decision is within the framework of cooperation between the Angolan and Italian governments and was approved by the joint commission during a meeting held in Luanda last November.

A delegation from the Italian Embassy in Angola, led by Health Attache Alberto Borbalam, was in Namibe from 7 to 12 February to survey the state of health of the residents of the province.

Ambrosio Capapinha said the projects for the two provinces are divided into two parts: the first part consists a

provincial health survey and the second is the design of the general program to be submitted to the two governments for their approval.

The Health Ministry delegate said the program calls for health aid at all levels and the assignment of Italian experts to Namibe and Cunene to strengthen the organizational capacity of the Health Ministry delegacies.

* New Indigenous Church Awaits Recognition

91AF0712A Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA
in Portuguese 19 Jan 91 p 3

[Text] Our capital has been witnessing the emergence of many churches and religious sects recently. Some have already been recognized by the Angolan Government and others have not, for various reasons. Among them is the Spiritualist Theosophical Church (ITE), which has not yet been recognized, although it has already complied with the necessary formalities.

The ITE is a nonprofit entity of a religious nature; it is apolitical, and its goal is to congregate all Christians, giving them the necessary spiritual, moral, and material assistance.

Spiritual aid is provided to all who accept it, voluntarily, through worship sessions, religious ceremonies, and Bible study groups.

The ITE, as a religious entity of national scope, with its headquarters in Luanda, intends to create branches in other cities in this country as well as abroad.

Another objective is to achieve a heightening of the religious consciousness of all believers and members, with respect for the laws and regulations in effect in the country.

The Spiritualist Theosophical Church, founded on 7 January 1976 in this city, currently has about 3,000 active members, distributed among several Angolan provinces and in other countries.

This church, which is also engaged in treating various diseases of a mental or organic type, has as a fundamental goal to implement the teachings contained in sacred (biblical) scripture. It has a favorable attitude toward all peoples of the world, to whom it can transmit spiritual, prophetic, and supernatural powers, according to the prophetess Suzeth Francisco Joao (Sujeita), the church's top-ranking authority.

In her words, the ITE is the basis of God's harmony with humans. It is a center bringing together people of all nationalities in their defense against the evil that is threatening mankind spiritually.

She added that the institution headed by her is theosophical because it is based on the religious philosophical doctrine that studies the understanding of God and his laws manifested in the universe, through the mystical revelation of the spirit, inspired by the divine wisdom.

According to this individual, spiritualism is a system based on the strong, persistent force of thought, which causes the human spirit to come in contact with God, through Christ, his son, by faith, through mental prayer; in other words, harmonization.

The prophetess Sujeita stressed: "It is from faith and the vibration of the Holy Spirit that man comes into communion with God, for what he wants to obtain or reject." She assumed the status of the church's leader after the death of its founder, Rodrigo Van-Dunem Domingos, known as the prophet Moses II, who died on 18 October 1989 in this city.

The subject of our interview claimed that the Spiritualist Theosophical Church is of Angolan origin, and came into existence "considering the different religious concepts existing in the world. One of its forms is the spiritualist source that any human being can receive or be given at birth, a source of inspiration that he can use for the good of mankind."

The spiritualist source resulting from the theosophical ideology is used by the ITE, located at No. 164 Rei Katiavala Street, to cure psychological and other diseases of which humans can be carriers.

Suzeth Joao remarked: "It is through faith and in the name of Christ that we cure the sick, cast out demons, and prevent natural disasters."

She added: "The sick person identifies himself, reporting what he feels, and the classifier organizes the process to be studied by the clairvoyant. The latter, in his concentration, receives the revelation, through the Holy Spirit, of the true cause of the concerns afflicting the patient."

She noted that, if the patient's symptomatology is of a mental type, he is treated by the divine spiritual force, remaining entirely in the care of the church. However, if the case is merely organic, a combination of medicinal plants or certain types of food is found, in the necessary amounts for the sick person's recovery. If the patient needs medical care, the clairvoyant advises his relatives to take him to the health center or to the hospital's emergency outpatient clinic.

According to the prophetess Sujeita, since its founding in 1976 the Spiritualist Theosophical Church has been visited by nearly 3 million patients, many of whom eventually became members voluntarily.

From Patients to Members

An ex-patient who, having been treated through the force of prayer, decides to join the church voluntarily, with the mission of taking care of those suffering, is considered a member of the Spiritualist Theosophical Church.

Before this, however, the Holy Spirit is transmitted to the candidate for membership at an investiture ceremony. At that point, he receives divine powers that will enable him to cure diseases, through the use of his supernatural gifts.

The investiture is a solemn ceremony symbolizing the descent of the divine Holy Spirit on those becoming members. After this event, the prophetess explained, "The members feel inundated with its light, through the power of which evil and foul spirits are expelled."

After the investiture, the members start assuming as their main task the fulfillment of the words of Christ the Lord, through sacred scripture. Their slogan is to preach the gospel of God, to cure the sick, and to work for the salvation of souls.

According to the ITE's principles, the theosophist, when faced with a patient, must take all precautions, advising him, enlightening him, assisting him in all the necessary respects, and accompanying him home or to the hospital, if need be.

The ITE member must not deny aid to a sick person whenever it is requested. According to the prophetess Sujeita, a simple prayer can cure the patient, provided that it is directed scientifically toward the sick person's condition.

In a poll taken by our reporting staff among some members, they were unanimous in claiming that the fact of having been cured of the illnesses afflicting them had some influence on their decision to become theosophist converts.

The Facilities Are Meager

The ITE head expressed regret at the fact that the facilities are too small to house the large number of sick people arriving there every weekday from 0800 to 1500 hours, as well as the throngs of members who come there on Sundays to attend worship services.

She added that the church plans to shelter orphaned and abandoned children, but that, for lack of suitable facilities, that ambition has not yet proven possible to fulfill. For this reason also, it is unable to start taking in patients requiring intensive care for confinement.

Symbols and Emblems

The ITE emblem is the celestial flag with the seven colors of the rainbow, representing God's harmony with humans; as well as seven oil lamps, representing the seven spirits of God.

Mauritius

* UDM Party Returns to Political Scene

91AF0833A Port Louis WEEK-END in French
17 Feb 91 p 3

[Article: "UDM Returns to Political Scene"]

[Text] After a very long absence from the political scene, the Mauritian Democratic Union (UDM), headed by

Guy Ollivry and Elwyn Chutel, makes its reappearance next Tuesday. The party will hold its first rally at Plaine-Verte....

Although remaining a constant fixture on the sidelines of the great public debates of recent years (a legal action initiated by its secretary general, Elwyn Chutel, led to nullification of the 10,000-rupee electoral bond), the UDM has not held a single public meeting since 1979, when party leader Guy Ollivry ran third in the special election for a Port Louis municipal councillorship. UDM has not faced the electorate since then, instead becoming a pressure group and serving as a watchdog for democratic rights.

The most recent UDM congress, held last year, resolved to keep open all options with respect to the upcoming electoral joust, including that of joining an alliance compatible with its ideals.

Some political circles have been anxiously waiting to see what new ideas UDM was going to offer the voters, especially since the party's principal doctrine (worker participation in company profits and capital management) seems to have won at least verbal endorsement from some of the country's leaders and from several enterprises.

One thing is already clear. The only new face in the UDM leadership next Tuesday will be Mr. Jeelany Imrith. As a matter of fact, the UDM's first leader, Mr. Maurice Lesage, will be making a comeback, alongside Guy Ollivry, Chutel, Ramen Ramassami Raffick Gulbul, Max Ramar, and Cyril L'Ecluse. Mr. Lesage was a politician respected for his integrity.

The UDM's newest recruit is an old political stalwart, Mr. Sham Panchoo, former third deputy from Beau-Bassin/Petit-Riviere and once a luminary in the PMSD [Mauritian Social Democratic Party] before moving on to the Labor Party [Pt] when the country became independent—a switch that earned him the position of parliamentary secretary and the epithet of turncoat. Mr. Panchoo retired from politics in 1976. UDM Secretary General Elwyn Chutel says Mr. Panchoo, who has long expressed the desire to serve the UDM cause, is a valuable asset.

The UDM campaign theme is "How to clean up Mauritian politics, and why."

*** MMM/MSM Party Congress: Common Platform**

91AF0832A Port Louis WEEK-END in French
17 Feb 91 p 5

[Article: "Paul Berenger: 'Today Marks True Beginning for MSM/MMM Alliance'"]

[Text] Mr. Paul Berenger, secretary general of the MMM [Mauritian Militant Movement], makes no effort to hide his feelings—shared also by the party's other leaders and

the rank and file—about the reunion that will be formalized this morning by a joint congress with the MSM [Mauritius Socialist Movement] and attended by delegates from both parties together for the first time since the March 1983 break-up. This congress of "rediscovered unity," "consolidation of national unity," and continued progress will kick off a political campaign "that must lead to victory in the next general elections."

Most important, the congress this morning will celebrate the "rediscovered unity of the parties and leadership of the MSM and MMM," Mr. Berenger told us, since it will mark the first time that "we stand together on the same platform after seven years." But it will also be the congress of "consolidated national unity," and unity is the main reason for creating an alliance between the two parties, which have vowed to struggle to consolidate a coexistence "as exemplary, fruitful, and enriching as possible" among the various communities that make up the nation of Mauritius.

Mr. Berenger gave a glowing description of the way leaders of the two parties have worked together since the accord was signed last July. "It has been extraordinary," he said, "almost as if we had never been separated." But today is the real starting point for the alliance, as militants and activists of the two parties ratify "in solemn communion" the accord already approved by their leaders. This beginning, which the secretary general says will be dazzling, is to be followed by a series of joint regional meetings leading up to a great rally on 1 May at Quatre-Bornes "focused on the general elections." And the path ahead will enable the two parties to "take great steps forward, which the rallies will consolidate and build on," all the way to election day. This congress is a turning point both for the country and for Mauritian political history, he added, and leaders of the MSM/MMM alliance are fully cognizant of the responsibilities resting on their shoulders. This morning they will all be fully prepared for the challenges they must meet, as they have already been working together for the country since the signing of the accord, he said. That accord rests on a common platform, the broad lines of which are: consolidation of national unity in diversity, consolidation of democracy in all its forms; the rebuilding of political and public ethical standards and their institutionalization for the future; consolidation of economic development, but with as much social justice as possible; implementation of a foreign policy worthy of us all and worthy of Mauritius itself, not forgetting the eventual recovery of the Chagos and Tromelin islands; and the struggle for disarmament.

There is so much enthusiasm among militants in the two parties that it has been decided to set up giant screens in the two wings of the auditorium, as well as in front of the building, "for those who cannot get inside the hall," said the MMM secretary general, adding that top leaders of both parties will circulate freely around the building and adjacent grounds "to show there is no split between leaders and militants."

* Arvind Boollell Escapes Aggressor

91AF0833B Port Louis L'EXPRESS in French
17 Feb 91 p 12

[Article: "Attempted Attack on Arvind Boollell"]

[Text] Dr. Arvind Boollell had a close call yesterday morning. A man named Prem tried to attack him with a sharp weapon at Camp Fouquereaux. The Labor deputy escaped unscathed.

After the abortive attack, the 60-year-old presumed author of the attack was injured in a traffic accident at Hermitage while driving Mr. Boollell's car. The vehicle skidded in a turn and flipped over, not far from the neighborhood soccer field. The man was arrested by police later yesterday morning.

A plainclothes policeman came to Dr. Boollell's assistance.

Yesterday afternoon Dr. Boollell told L'EXPRESS that Prem came to his office for a consultation a week ago on the pretext that his 12-year-old daughter wanted the doctor to come to the house to treat her illness.

He gave his address to Dr. Boollell, but when the latter arrived for the appointment, Prem was not there. The following day Prem telephoned Dr. Boollell again. The two men finally met yesterday, near the Sik Yuen supermarket at Curepipe, and the client gave the doctor a new address as his domicile.

On the Camp Fouquereaux road, Dr. Boollell decided the client's behavior was somewhat suspicious and ordered him to get out of his car. Prem refused and tried to attack the Labor deputy with a knife. The latter managed to get away from his alleged attacker. Prem then fled in Dr. Boollell's car, but several kilometers down the road, at Hermitage, the vehicle overturned at a bend in the road. Injured, Prem was taken to a private clinic where he was given first aid. Police arrested him shortly after he left the clinic.

* Sugar Industry Refutes Concern Over Harvest

91AF0731A Port Louis THE SUN in French
7 Feb 91 p 3

[Text of communique by the sugar industry's Public Relations Office]

[Text] Certain members of the press, in analyzing the effects of the drought on the 1991 sugar harvest, have reported that production may fall short of 550,000 metric tons. According to these same sources, Mauritius may find itself unable to fill the EEC's sugar quota under the provisions of the sugar protocol of the Lome Convention in which case Mauritius would have no choice but to invoke the "force majeure" clause.

Such reports are not supported by concrete facts as it is still premature at this point to make an objective estimate of the 1991 sugar harvest. A useful gauge is provided, however, by the results obtained in two recent years that were particularly affected by drought, 1981 and 1984, when respectively 564,526 and 575,617 metric tons of sugar were produced. The observations made by sugar industry specialists to date indicate that the 1991 harvest will be comparable to the 1981 and 1984 harvests.

Furthermore, Mauritius has a permanently available buffer stock of 25,000 metric tons, according to information obtained from the Sugar Syndicate. If needed, this stock could be used to furnish the shipments required under the EEC's annual quota.

On the basis of current information, there is no danger that Mauritius will be unable to fulfill its obligations to the EEC. It is therefore completely inaccurate to state that the "force majeure" clause may have to be invoked.

* Tourist Market Tailored To Attract Japanese

91AF0688C Port Louis WEEK-END in French
6 Feb 91 pp 1, 4

[Article by Jacques David: "Goal: Attracting Some 25,000 Japanese Tourists Between Now and 1993"; first paragraph is WEEK-END introduction; italicized passages published in English]

[Text] Air Mauritius, the hotels, the travel agencies, the *tour operators*, and the Tourist Office have undertaken the Herculean labor of acquiring a better understanding of the Japanese tourist market. This market has great potential for Mauritius, because, according to the philosophy of the Nippon government itself, Japanese should be encouraged to travel on their vacations. An estimated 10 million Japanese travel each year. In 1989, approximately 400,000 Japanese spent their vacations on the islands of the Pacific, Guam, and Hawaii.

Other favorite destinations include Hong Kong (for shopping), Taiwan, Singapore, and Europe. This is why the Mauritian Government has concluded that Mauritius can aim for a total of some 25,000 Japanese tourists by 1993. However, a whole new infrastructure will have to be developed for this new breed of tourist, whose outstanding characteristic is a demand for exceptional service from start to finish. The essential advantage for the country: the Japanese market is a gold mine that we should know how to maintain and exploit.

Several steps have already been taken to reach this Japanese market. These include the initial thrust by MEDIA [Mauritius Export Development and Investment Authority], which opened an office in Tokyo in 1989, the opening of a *Mauritius Government Tourist Office* last July, and acquisition of landing rights for Air Mauritius at Osaka and Nagoya, with negotiations under way to get our national airline landing rights at Narita. Last, tourism specialists have completed an in-depth

study of Japanese customs: their habits and attitudes with respect to new markets, their culinary preferences, the relationship to be cultivated, and the services that should be provided from the time they arrive to the time they leave Mauritius.

Basically, the study says that, to facilitate development of the Japanese market, we need to create an *awareness* of Mauritius, which is still not well-known in Japan; be scheduled by the *tour operators*; establish structures and facilities for direct flights; target specific groups (for example, attract newlyweds who would like to spend their honeymoon here); have Japanese flight attendants on long-distance flights, and provide a maximum of information in Japanese during [their] flights and upon arrival in Mauritius.

Reception facilities (the hotels) must have special arrangements for the Japanese clientele, because reservations go directly via the service providers to Mauritius. They must also make fax and telex equipment available to the tourist, because the Japanese tourist does not want to waste time. Other services that must be made available to him are a guide who speaks fluent Japanese and brochures containing a good selection of well-designed tours, because the clientele does not like to remain at the hotel.

From the standpoint of hotel accommodations, the Japanese client wants to have everything immediately and be able to relax: kimonos (*Yacuta robes*), slippers, *teapots* with green tea, Japanese newspapers, and Japanese-speaking guides. The room should have a minibar with sake and Japanese beer. In the restaurant, menus should always include *miso soup*, *grilled salmon* and/or *smoked marlin*, *sweetened egg omelettes*, and *steamed rice with seaweed*.

A *room directory* in Japanese should be available in the client's room. However, the most essential thing is to have a luxury boutique with lots of gifts for him to give when he gets home. According to a survey last July by NIHON KEIZAI SHIMBUN, a Japanese financial daily, purchases made by Japanese tourists abroad consist primarily of chocolate, whiskey, cigarettes, beauty products, jewelry, and accessories. Most purchases are reportedly not made for personal use but for giving as gifts. Also, the alcohol, cigarettes, and chocolate are purchased in *duty-free shops* and the luxury items in boutiques. Most tourists 40 and over obtain shopping information from *tour conductors*, while women between the ages of 20 and 30 rely on magazines.

The results of a study, broken down by age group and sex, show that women of around 50 years of age spend the most: an average of 417,000 yen [Y] (approximately 50,000 rupees). This figure drops to Y160,000 (approximately 20,000 rupees) for women between the ages of 30 and 40.

* Singapore Delegation Visit on Trade Plans

91AF0783B Port Louis LE MAURICIEN in French
26 Feb 91 p 2

[Article by Leon Baya: "An Increase in Singapore-Mauritian Trade is Anticipated; italicized passages published in English]"

[Text] Trade between Singapore and Mauritius will not be affected by the Gulf war. On the contrary, everything seems to indicate that it will be maintaining its upward trend.

This is the personal conviction of the general manager of the Singapore Trade Development Board [STDB], Ridzwan Dzaifir, who is heading a trade delegation of about 30 members, the largest one Mauritius has ever received. The Singapore businessmen were very active yesterday afternoon at the Trou-aux-Biches Hotel where, with the assistance of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry, they made direct contact with local importers.

The mission set three objectives while it was travelling to Mauritius, which is the first stage of an African tour that will take the delegation to Tanzania and Kenya:

- (a) find openings for the products it is promoting;
- (b) look into possibilities of importing Mauritian products; and
- (c) study the possibility of joint ventures. With regard to the first objective, Mr. Dzaifir said that many of the exporters accompanying him were on their first visit to Mauritius and that they would need some time to find local distributors or agents. "We feel we have the *manufacturing capability to satisfy the Mauritian market*," said the manager of the Singapore Trade Development Board.

Mr. Dzaifir is confident that Singapore exports to Mauritius will continue to increase. According to the STDB, Mauritian imports last year amounted to 185 million Singapore dollars, as compared to 145 million in 1989 and 136.1 million in 1988. Mauritius is the fourth-largest African market for Singapore, with Liberia (540.5 million Singapore dollars in 1990), Nigeria (279.1 million), and Egypt (254.1 million) ahead of it.

At the STDB, they are of the opinion that the possibilities that Singapore import Mauritian products are limited, since the line of products is not broad enough to interest Singapore customers. Moreover, Singapore can find the same goods in other southeast Asian markets. All the same, according to STDB statistics, Mauritian exports to that island of 2.6 million inhabitants amounted to about 14 million Singapore dollars in 1989. Textiles accounted for approximately 50 percent of that amount.

"Mauritius is still in the preliminary stages of industrial development. It will take some time before joint venture projects can be developed. We will have to determine

whether your infrastructure is adequate. Since the domestic market is limited, Mauritius has turned towards exports and, in my opinion, the success of an export business depends on the competitiveness on the international market," Mr. Dzafir responded when asked about Singapore investments in Mauritius. Agro-industry and electronics are the sectors they would be interested in, but it is not certain whether Singapore businessmen want to leave their region just yet. "We are encouraging firms that are highly labor intensive and that have a low value added to establish their business elsewhere, and are replacing them with high-technology firms. But this policy is not consistent with Mauritian policy. Moreover, the Singapore entrepreneur is conservative and focusses his operations in the region," Mr. Dzafir pointed out.

The STDB delegation will be in Mauritius for 48 hours more. Yesterday morning, it had a working meeting with officials from the Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

Mozambique

Army Destroys Renamo Communications Site 30 Mar

MB0204175991 Maputo Domestic Service
in Portuguese 1730 GMT 2 Apr 91

[Communique issued by the Armed Forces General Staff in Maputo; date not given—read by General Staff member Paulo Bambo; live or recorded]

[Text] As part of the combat operations planned by the Mozambique Armed Forces [FAM] General Staff, military units stationed in Sofala Province on 30 March destroyed a Renamo [Mozambique National Resistance] armed bandit communications center in Senga-Senga region. Two decoders were captured during the operation.

On 28 March, FAM units stationed in Inhambane Province stormed the Regional General Staff situated in (Guambene) area, between Gaza and Inhambane Provinces. Our forces captured 37 weapons of various calibers, 10 decoders, and assorted rounds of ammunition. Meanwhile, operations are still in progress in all regions of the country.

Energy, Telecommunications Projects Approved

MB0204212491 Maputo Domestic Service
in Portuguese 1400 GMT 2 Apr 91

[Text] The Council of Ministers has assessed the report on the bids on the domestic energy program technical assistance project. The program is financed by several national and foreign agencies, as well as the Mozambican Government. According to a recent edition of the REPUBLIC GAZETTE, the Council of Ministers awarded the project to the (Van Niekerk, Flynn and Edward) enterprise.

The publication adds that the Council of Ministers ratified the credit agreement signed between the

Republic of Mozambique and the Central Fund for Economic Cooperation in November 1990. The credit amounts to 79 million French francs and will be used to finance the third phase of the expansion of Mozambique Telecommunications Enterprise's satellite transmission network.

Transportation Ministry Outlines Triennial Plan

MB0204165291 Maputo Domestic Service
in Portuguese 1400 GMT 2 Apr 91

[Text] The Transportation and Communications Ministry has presented to the government a far-reaching plan which includes the renovation of three national ports. The plan is scheduled to be carried out over the next three years. An official source said that the renovation plan includes the Quelimane, Pemba, and Inhambane ports of central, northern, and southern Mozambique. The source added that the triennial plan for the maritime transportation sector includes the renovation of the coastal cargo fleet, the upgrading of drainage enterprises, creation of cargo terminals, and training of harbor pilots. The plan also includes the restoration of infrastructures in the country's three main corridors—namely, Beira, Nacala, and Limpopo.

In the civil aviation sector, the triennial plan gives priority to the reconstruction of aeronautical telecommunications and radio navigation aids, and the renovation of the main airport runways.

Beira Port Handles Increased Cargo in 1990

MB0204121691 Maputo Domestic Service
in Portuguese 1030 GMT 2 Apr 91

[Text] Beira corridor director Rui Fonseca has revealed that Beira port is currently handling five times the international cargo that it handled in the mid-1980's. He said the port handled 2.5 million tonnes of cargo in 1990. More than 60 percent of this was international cargo. With the completion of five new terminals late this year, the port is expected to increase its traffic to about 5 million tonnes.

1990 Angoche Port Cargo Half of 1989 Level

MB0204120391 Maputo Domestic Service
in Portuguese 1030 GMT 2 Apr 91

[Text] Angoche port in Nampula Province handled more than 9,000 tonnes of assorted cargo in 1990. This is about half the cargo it handled in 1989. The cargo handled decreased because of the lower production and sale of cashew nuts in Angoche District. Apart from cashew nuts, Angoche port handles timber, cereals, and a large quantity of food products within the framework of the emergency program.

Namibia

Workers' Union Reaffirms Support for SWAPO

*MB0204213091 Windhoek Domestic Service in English
1900 GMT 2 Apr 91*

[Text] The president of the National Union of Namibian Workers, (Shikero Toya), says the trade union federation has reaffirmed its affiliation to the ruling party. (Toya) told the Namibian Broadcasting Corporation that the union would, however, function autonomously and should not be seen as a wing of the ruling party. According to (Toya), the union's long standing relationship with SWAPO [South-West African People's Organization] was still constructive, and would continue unaltered. He added that, in terms of international relations, the union will only affiliate to the World Federation of Trade Unions. (Toya) said relations with other international unions would be limited to mutual cooperation on development programs.

Zambia

Ex-UNIP MP Joins Multiparty Democracy Group

*MB0204212891 Lusaka Domestic Service
in English 1800 GMT 2 Apr 91*

[Text] Matero Member of Parliament Abel Mkandawire, who resigned from UNIP [United National Independence Party] early last month and did not immediately show signs of joining the opposition, saying that he was still studying their manifestos, has today decided to join the Movement for Multiparty Democracy [MMD]. A statement released to ZNBC [Zambia National Broadcasting Corporation] states that Mr. Mkandawire's move is based on what he says are fundamental principles. Mr. Mkandawire is the 10th member of parliament who has so far left the ruling party, UNIP, for the MMD.

Benin

High Council Adopts 1991 National Budget

AB0204154791 Cotonou Domestic Service in French
 1930 GMT 31 Mar 91

[All figures as heard]

[Excerpt] One of the highlights of the last session of the High Council of the Republic [HCR] held yesterday was the adoption of the budget. For 1991, the state operating budget will amount to 47.939 billion CFA francs in income and 81.420 billion CFA francs in expenditures. This shows a deficit of 32.681 billion CFA francs compared with 24.718 billion CFA francs last year. These figures show the significance of the finance law that the HCR has just passed. The principal feature of the law is the rising deficit.

This deficit is very high, and a balanced budget will only be achieved through the mobilization of foreign aid. Since the law was drafted in cooperation with economic partners, we can hope that such foreign assistance will be forthcoming. [passage omitted]

Cape Verde

* New Economy Minister Views Position

91AF0723A Lisbon EXPRESSO in Portuguese
 16 Feb 91 p 11

[Interview with Economy Minister Gustavo Araujo by Antonio Loja Neves; place and date not given]

[Text] At 38 years of age, he is a businessman and an economist. Contrary to the majority of the students of his generation, he never engaged in political activities related to the independence of his country. Despite this, the colleagues of Lisbon's university "home" which he frequented—many of them supporters of the then PAIGC [African Party for the Independence of Guinea-Bissau and Cape Verde]—referred to him as a likable classmate. But Gustavo Araujo did not finish his studies in Portugal; it was in Belgium, at the University of Louvain, that he was schooled in economy.

Having finished his course and favoring the liberal tenets that he observed in the area of his specialty—as will be verified during the interview—the current minister of industry, commerce, and tourism of the Republic of Cape Verde showed no interest in returning to the country governed by a single-party regime and, therefore, opted for Lisbon, where he first taught classes at Nova University and later worked in an administrative capacity at various companies, subsequently establishing his own company and specializing in tourism.

When, in November of last year, the national convention of the then recently established Movement for Democracy [MD] was held, Gustavo Araujo happened to be in Cape Verde and took part in the event. He returns to

Lisbon, undoubtedly as an important piece in the new Cape Verdian political chess game.

Having little time to exchange his Lisbon business office for the ministerial office in Praia, it was as a member of the regime which was victorious in the legislative elections of 13 January that Gustavo Araujo spoke with EXPRESSO.

[Neves] You have just accepted the difficult task of heading a superministry which deals with essential areas of the Cape Verdian economy. What is bad about the economy of your country?

[Araujo] That which is not going well is something basic but difficult to pinpoint. The lack of confidence, for example. We are dealing with a sector where we need resident domestic businessmen, domestic businessmen with headquarters abroad and foreign businessmen. Those businessmen will not invest unless they experience an atmosphere of confidence, and that confidence has not existed until now. Another serious fault is the nonexistence of a strategy for the country's development. In my opinion, the previous regime never had that. As that regime itself acknowledged, it preferred "sailing without instruments." It went along receiving funds from abroad through remittances by emigrants and international subsidies: the first went almost exclusively to finance consumption and the second went to cover project by project, case by case, without establishing a genuine development strategy.

[Neves] Does this mean that you encountered a country which was stagnant, without any change?

[Araujo] I took the occasion to write that through foreign financial aid alone it was not possible to achieve any development. I believe that we can now confirm this. There is no doubt that something was done; there are infrastructures which we did not have in 1975; but these are insufficient. Those accomplishments are not the fruit of any strategy but simply the implementation of foreign aid.

[Neves] But surely any regime, whichever it may be, applies its foreign aid toward a specific project...

[Araujo] Even if this were an aspect of a specific strategy, we have long seen the weakness of development strategies based on the simple establishment of infrastructures. In my opinion, ever since 1980 we should have attached more importance to productive investment, in the area of tourism, for example.

[Neves] In your ministry, and considering specifically the present Cape Verdian economic structure, business has gone through a number of very important developments.

[Araujo] Precisely. Here I would like to stress two essential elements. The first is the relationship with the business class, which has limited itself exclusively to the import of goods inasmuch as until now it belies the evolution of the country. It limited itself to commercial

exchanges, never becoming industrialists, for example. With the confidence that my regime can instill in them, I believe that this social group can venture to engage in industrial investment. We have to exercise a certain amount of pedagogy, attempting to show them that the country cannot live from business activity alone, that the foreign currency at the country's disposal will decrease if there is not worthwhile investment and that, if they want to continue to play the leading role which they have assumed relatively well until now, they will have to invest in the productive area.

[Neves] You spoke of two aspects.

[Araujo] The other is the fact that there has always been a lack of a genuine commercial policy at the foreign level. The entire customs tax system is directed only toward the collection of income for public financing, and it has never been changed to reflect a foreign commercial policy.

Central Bank Considered Bureaucratic

[Neves] What measures do you consider necessary in this field?

[Araujo] They are basic measures. There never were any in Cape Verde, nor were any reforms introduced. In that aspect, our state is almost what it was in 1975. Never was there a reform of the tax system, much less of the banking system; never was there a genuine commercial policy promoted; we do not even have a rough sketch of the banking system. And our Central Bank [BC], simultaneously commercial and designed for investment, is highly bureaucratized...

[Neves] Do you believe that, with regard to Cape Verde's BC, the solution would be to divide it into several banks?

[Araujo] At this moment it is not yet completely decided what will become of the state's business sector; but I believe that in the financial area there will be a number of innovations. There are several foreign groups interested in the establishment of banks in Cape Verde; not only off-shore banks but also commercial entities; and there must be a rapid determination to permit the state to play its role correctly in that area. There could be a decision which would divide the present structure into a combination of the BC, a commercial bank, and an investment bank, but nothing is decided; it is not even the subject of my hypotheses for the moment. We must discuss all of this, beginning with the proposals of my colleague in the Ministry of Finance. That innovation will certainly result in a division of the type I have indicated, for it is even possible that the state may take a position in the commercial area; but if that innovation were incorporated in the BC and the investment bank, that segment controlled by the state may not be competitive with private commercial banks.

[Neves] Can it be conceded that there is an important private component in the banking system?

[Araujo] In this regard there is no constitutional or legal limitation, and the entire regulatory aspect is already far advanced. It is a subject to which the government will devote immediate attention in order to satisfy existing requests within the framework of the financial policy.

[Neves] What will be the first measures you will take with regard to industry?

[Araujo] There are various avenues, but the state's role will be to create overall conditions designed to promote private initiative. In addition to tourism, conditions might be created to develop an industrial segment which will satisfy supplementary phases in the production of articles whose first manufacturing stage is development abroad but whose final operation would be performed in Cape Verde. In view of our geographical situation, we can provide the stage for a number of industries through the conversion of raw materials or the final operations of materials already processed. It will be up to the business people to discover those avenues, establishing new companies. And it is up to the government to restore confidence in the investor and restructure the economy.

[Neves] However, the foreign business component appears to be essential.

[Araujo] Obviously, and in this regard a number of presidents of influential Portuguese groups are coming to Cape Verde in March; and this will have to be equated with the campaign for the formation of our own commercial fabric.

[Neves] Is there already a plan regarding the tourist area, which perhaps presupposes the establishment of hotel units? In what respect do your viewpoints clash with the plan of the previous regime?

[Araujo] We shall have to hurriedly draw up a plan for tourist development. Currently, there is no true plan to incorporate tourism in the economy and in Cape Verdian society, including aspects such as territorial orderliness and cultural shock on the part of the people. I do not mean a centralized arrangement but rather a document outlining the government's policy regarding that sector. This is what we shall soon attempt to present in its broad outline. I should like to point out that we shall be delayed in the establishment of the necessary infrastructures due to the nonexistence of this plan. The principal guidelines of that document can be established immediately and presented as part of the government's program. The general plan can be presented within three months.

[Neves] Can you disclose certain priorities?

[Araujo] It will be an overall plan for the country which will determine the tourist areas involved, the type of tourism, its financing, and the perception and anticipation of its impact on the economy, society and culture itself. Later, again over the short term, there will be a structural plan for specific areas, such as in the case of the Sal [expansion not given], which will include the

orderliness of the territory, urbanization, basic sanitation, and the creation of an internal image, preparing the people to assume the option of tourism. We shall also attempt to interest a domestic business group in investing in this area.

Quality Tourism

[Neves] And how do you expect business to help stimulate your tourist sector, since it appears to me to be currently deficient?

[Araujo] The domestic economy, particularly our agriculture, cannot respond in a definite manner to the need to supply the increasing population motivated by tourism. There will still be considerable dependence on outside sources in this area, but at this point we must continue to count on our merchants. We shall have to be prepared to keep up with those new requirements and diversify our products in keeping with the demand. But our production is a basic element. Here again, nothing was done regarding an agricultural policy commensurate with other sectors of the economy. In this case, the interconnection of tourism and agriculture should be carefully weighed.

[Neves] Does this suggest an interventionist policy?

[Araujo] In no way. It will be necessary to clearly determine which sector will provide a certain accumulation and, in these terms, attempt through a noninterventionist policy—essentially a policy of prices and a better circulation of domestic agricultural production—to obtain a greater contribution of the domestic market to the tourist sector. The same philosophy can be applied to the small-business sector, rescuing the slow extinction of craft-type industries of virtually family size, such as baking or pottery-making.

[Neves] And what type of tourism do you contemplate for Cape Verde?

[Araujo] Tourism of high quality. We have natural potentials and can use the restructuring of the tourist flows on a worldwide level. In this initial phase we shall have to take advantage of the most favorable part of the market. It will be directed to the elite and, in these circumstances, the price aspect will not be very important. When we get to the point where we have a high-level hotel complex (five stars, which is currently not the case), with all necessary infrastructures, we shall have a well-to-do element of tourism, and the cost of importing goods to supply that element will be irrelevant.

[Neves] To develop an industrial mentality, it is necessary to provide those interested with the instruments which will enable them to have confidence in the future. I remember the powerless longing with which members of the commercial complex of Mindelo recall the golden days of Porto Grande—about 50 years ago—refraining from investing in a new phase.

[Araujo] Let us examine two important points—that of the mentality and the problem of Mindelo and Porto Grande. As for the first aspect, Cape Verde urgently needs a business-like mentality. To achieve this, we shall have to make an effort at persuasion in order to attain good results over the long term. The spirit of initiative is not very well developed among Cape Verdeans at this time, but the outgoing regime is responsible for this. I am not among those who say that the only way for the country to develop is through an economic liberalism or, excuse me, that liberalism necessarily leads to development. But I think that without some liberalism, especially in a society such as ours, it is not possible for the country to develop. Our principal task will be to provide the economic sphere with all the political enthusiasm we can muster. This would not have been possible previously, even with an open-door policy; it could be achieved only with a change of regimes. There are journalists who asked us to define the difference between our strategy and that of the others; I do not know if you might have been one of them....

[Neves] I was. And I now ask you if....

[Araujo] There are basic differences; and one of them concerns the phenomenon of change, of the prevailing difference between the "before" and "after" of the 13 January elections. The previous regime had attempted a certain degree of liberalization but did not achieve the desired results from that attempt. We are going to try to change that attitude on the part of our fellow citizens.

[Neves] Two recent foreign factors threaten to interfere with the anticipated flow of foreign investments in Africa: the opening to the East, with the renewed interest of Western investors, and the Gulf War, with a subsequent revamping north-south relations. How do you think that the Cape Verdian economy may react to those elements?

[Araujo] It is not of great concern what is happening in the East; and I believe that the advantages far outweigh the disadvantages. We have a domestic population of 330,000 people, and those overall investment reorientations can hardly have any impact on an economy as small as ours. We need only a few dozen hotels, a few industries, and a few companies, and the country's problem is solved, if all of this occurs within the framework of an adequate policy. The necessary funds for such an arrangement will be insignificant in relation to the overall picture. I am convinced that we shall continue to have the necessary funds to cope with our development. In virtue of the change which we are effecting in Cape Verde, we are perhaps becoming the most attractive country in Africa for investments. Moreover, this is the opinion of a number of Portuguese businessmen with whom I discussed this aspect in recent days.

[Neves] What do you expect from the participation of the Portuguese businessman?

[Araujo] I shall not mention the historic and cultural aspects which bind us together; I refer to another which

is very important: the present phase of the Portuguese economy. It is rapidly changing, since about five years ago. In 1981 I wrote that the PALOP [Portuguese-Speaking African Countries] had an opportunity to make an important contribution to their economic development through a greater interpenetration into Portuguese economy in general; and because it possessed even at that time elements which had nothing to do with an advanced economy but which would make it possible to export some of our products. With this development verified in Portugal, those countries could more easily modernize their economies and continue to export. The fact that the Portuguese economy is undergoing drastic changes is an attractive factor for us, not one which is inhibitive.

[Neves] But in the case of Cape Verde, to what extent can this influence be felt?

[Araujo] The Portuguese economy is concluding a phase in which it had many structural deficiencies and it is developing a modern economy. The most important contribution is that example: awareness of the Portuguese process can serve as a catalyst for changes in our economy. In my opinion, this is the fundamental aspect of that relationship.

The Gambia

PRC Military Delegation Arrives

AB0204191891 Paris AFP in English 1714 GMT
2 Apr 91

[Text] Banjul, April 2 (AFP)—A Chinese military delegation led by Chief of Staff Xu Xin is in Gambia to discuss security and defense questions with the small West African country's leaders. Gen. Xu Xin was to meet with head of state Sir Dawda Jawara, who has been to China three times since 1975.

Military cooperation between the two countries has included a gift from Beijing of two patrol boats currently in service in the Gambian navy.

Ghana

Petroleum Products Prices Reduced

AB3003105091 Dakar PANA in English 1028 GMT
30 Mar 91

[Text] Accra, 30 March (GNA/PNA)—Ghana Friday [29 March] announced an immediate reduction in prices of petroleum products by up to 50 per cent, following the drop of crude oil prices on the world market. The Ghana National Petroleum Corporation, the organization charged with importing Ghana's crude oil, said in a statement that aviation fuel would sell at 33 U.S. cents, down 34 per cent from 50 cents while fuel for bunkering will sell at 26 cents instead of 53 cents, a reduction of 50 percent.

Petrol prices would go down by 10 percent from 222 cedis (about 61 cents) to 200 cedis (about 55 cents) a litre. Diesel would now sell at 166 cedis (about 46 cents) instead of 189 cedis (about 52 cents) a litre.

The new prices took effect from Friday night.

Guinea-Bissau

Vieira Asks Senegal Separatists To Halt Battle

AB3103210591 Dakar Domestic Service in French
2000 GMT 30 Mar 91

[Text] The Guinea-Bissau president has asked the Senegalese separatists to lay down their arms. In an address, Joao Bernardo Vieira asked the separatists in the south of our country to lay down their arms and rejoin Senegalese society.

He said that his government will not accept its territory being used to destabilize neighboring countries. Senegal is a country where multiparty politics is practiced, with more than 10 parties. So the Casamance separatists, if they want, should just form a party, Mr. Vieira said.

* Party's Decision To Adopt Reforms Analyzed

91AF0737A Paris JEUNE AFRIQUE ECONOMIE
in French Feb 91 pp 145-148

[Article by Michel Lobe Ewane: "A Difficult Opening"; first paragraph is JEUNE AFRIQUE ECONOMIE introduction]

[Text] In Guinea-Bissau neither mobs in the street nor the rank and file of the party imposed the establishment of a multiparty system. The pressure came from the top level of the party. Within the party no one is really against the idea. However, there are those who are its "fervent" supporters and those who are "afraid" of it. As far as the opposition is concerned, people are waiting to see what its programs are.

By announcing, at its extraordinary congress held in Bissau from 20-25 January 1991, the regime's willingness to accept a multiparty system, the African Party for the Independence of Guinea-Bissau and Cape Verde (PAIGC) has aligned itself with the democratic trend that has developed in Africa. The birth of a multiparty system will be difficult despite the desire to move in that direction that has been clearly expressed for many months by President Joao Bernardo Vieira.

However, contrary to the majority of his African opposite numbers, "Nino" Vieira has not had to deal with movements of opposition to his government or popular demonstrations in favor of a multiparty system.

Pressure for the establishment of a pluralistic political system has come from the top level of the government—that is, the president himself and a few of his faithful supporters—rather than from the party's rank and file. As for the opposition living abroad, far from being the

driving force of a future movement calling for democratic reforms, it seems rather to be following behind the initiative undertaken by the government in Bissau. Paradoxically, the chief of state of Guinea-Bissau has had to deal with unexpected resistance from within his own party among officials and senior leaders, many of whom were far from sharing his views on political liberalization. Therefore, a rather clear division has emerged within the elite leadership group of the PAIGC.

Certainly, this opposition to a multiparty system is not expressed openly. At present almost everyone says that he or she is in favor of opening up the political system. However, a subtle distinction has emerged between those who are "fervent" supporters of change and those who are "afraid" of it. The "fervent" supporters of change present a very simple analysis, summarized in the views that President Nino Vieira himself expressed to us on this subject. He said: "Competition is good. We have adopted it in the economic sector and we see that it works. A political opposition will force us to do a better job." As is only appropriate, it is precisely among the principal leaders responsible for the present economic policy that you find the most fervent supporters of this line of policy.

This is the case with Manuel dos Santos, minister of state in charge of the economy and finance. In his view the economic reforms under way, aimed at putting a liberal economy in place, freed of the concepts of a managed economy and state control that have been in effect for more than 10 years, can only succeed if the political framework itself evolves in the direction of openness. In his view only a multiparty system can ensure such conditions. According to Manuel dos Santos, the multiparty system can only be a positive development, an advantage in making a success of the modernization program now under way. He is a member of the Political Bureau of the party and is a close associate of President Vieira. His influence will be all the more decisive, as he himself is in contact with the principal sources of assistance for the country. Now, even though Guinean leaders tend to deny it, we know that in the future the international organizations and the Western countries will make democratization an important criterion in extending loans. In short, from the point of view of its supporters, a multiparty system is an economic necessity.

However, not all of the members of the government are necessarily on the same wavelength. Among those who say, "Yes, but" to a multiparty system should be included, in particular, personalities like Mario Cabral, the minister of justice. He said: "Although we have all agreed to follow this path, the party leaders are not always in agreement on 'how to get there.' To reach this point, we have had an extended debate, not only within the committee but also in the Political Bureau, which was expanded into a committee to study the matter." In his view it will be necessary to follow along the path set down by the president but in a careful way.

He is aware, like the minister of finance, one of his colleagues, that the "monolithic political framework" in use up to now is no longer suited to the new, economic realities. However, he considers that "not everyone is strongly in favor" of this process of democratization and that as a result there is still a long way to go. He said: "I say 'yes' to a multiparty system. However, I take into consideration all of the aspects that could threaten national cohesion. I am for a transition conducted in a prudent and peaceful way."

This is because the problems of national unity and consciousness are still sharply felt in Guinea-Bissau, arousing fear that the changes under way will drag the country into anarchy. He added: "There is a real fear that the country will break up."

The other difficulty has been to make the rank and file of the people understand the direction and particularly the importance of these new political orientations. In the course of campaigns to explain the situation, sponsored by the party in the small towns and villages in the interior of the country, party members have not always understood very well the remarks made by party leaders, who have had all kinds of difficulties in convincing the rank and file of the party. Some people have felt that they have been betrayed. In particular, those who were active in the war of liberation do not see why the PAIGC is arranging to share power with other political parties which, in their view, have no historical legitimacy. Moreover, veterans of the armed struggle, the hard core of those opposed to a democratic change, are frustrated to see that the army is being reorganized to their detriment.

However, among the obstacles, which stand in the way of establishing a multiparty system, the most serious is reportedly the delay in the preparation of the necessary documentation. A committee has been in existence since 1988 to draft the political reform measures to accompany the changes that have taken place in the economic sphere. However, it was not until 1989 that the committee got down to work in preparing proposals for the party leadership.

The Party Is in No Hurry To Prepare the Documents

This delay was the principal reason for putting off the date for holding the congress. Initially scheduled for the period from 10 to 14 December 1990, it was rescheduled for 20 January 1991. The official reason was that a whole series of documents was not ready, including the platform for the political transition, the new PAIGC statutes and program, the election law, the draft constitution, the law on the press, and the law on trade unions.

Regarding the platform for the transition, a first draft had been presented during the national conference of party officials in September 1990. Many amendments, recommendations, and suggestions were made, requiring the editors to revise their draft completely. The fact remains that this delay in the preparation of the various

documents fully reflects the divisions within the committee, which contributed to its paralysis. In the view of some observers this paralysis in the party apparatus also reflects the position of so eminent a personality as Vasco Cabral, permanent secretary of the PAIGC. It is said that Cabral was not exactly among the most fervent defenders of the multiparty system. Therefore, since the congress was put off, we have seen that this matter has been taken in hand by President Nino Vieira himself. Thus, at a meeting of the Central Committee held from 10 to 15 December and devoted to the preparation of these well-known documents, a new committee was charged with drafting them as well as proposing a calendar leading to the adoption of the democratic process. However, this was a job which, at first, was to be handled by the Ministry of Justice. This was a kind of repudiation of the leaders who were responsible for handling the matter and who were held responsible for the delay in the organization and preparation of the party congress.

Consequently, certain decisions made during the 10 December meeting of the Central Committee at first had an impact on the directions taken and the resolutions adopted by the congress. This was a way of closing the door to further change by those who supported the line followed by the president, who had to emerge from the meeting with a clear and definite result. Although during the congress a decision on the nature of the government was still under consideration, it was already known that there would be a presidential system. The meeting of the Central Committee also decided to depoliticize the defense and security forces. In the same way a schedule was adopted, setting out the action to be taken during the period of transition between 1991 and 1993.

However, to calm the concerns of the veterans of the armed struggle who are suffering some disadvantages in connection with the establishment of the new structure for the armed forces, a welfare fund has been established to help them.

In fact, the results of the preparatory meeting of the Central Committee had to be as specific as they were concrete. It was necessary to wipe out, in the view of public opinion, the impression of improvisation and of unpreparedness that the delay in holding the extraordinary congress of the party had left. Also, the government did not wait until the party congress opened to announce that it had decided to adopt a full, multiparty system.

No Party May Be Established on an Ethnic Basis

On 21 December Helder Proenca, secretary for information and propaganda of the PAIGC, announced that there would be no limit on the number of political parties permitted to operate in the country. Only parties set up on an ethnic basis will not be allowed to engage in political activity. The spirit in which the PAIGC intends to exercise power in the new political situation was also made clear.

According to Helder Proenca, the PAIGC is ready to "coexist" with other, opposition parties in the framework of the "program of transition" toward democracy. However, he rejected the participation of the opposition in a future government of transition because, he said, "The PAIGC must alone be responsible during that phase, as it was the only party that fought for independence."

Regarding President Vieira himself, who has been very active in defending the multiparty system, he clearly stated, during a visit to the interior of the country a few days before the opening of the extraordinary congress of the party, that the PAIGC would no longer be the leading force in society. He carefully explained that the present political system, in which the single party controls all agencies of the state, is bound to disappear. One of the considerations most frequently mentioned by the leaders to justify the adoption of a system of political pluralism is the economic argument.

However, an increasing number of figures who are active on the political scene, and particularly the leaders of the opposition parties, are concerned about the use that will be made of the official media in the future. In the view of Agnelo Regala, secretary of state for information, newspapers will have "a very important mission in this process. However, each of them should be neutral and impartial, because the information system will have the task of defending the country and disseminating news about it and the state and not about the party."

In this respect, the analysis made by Aristide Gomes, the director of the national television system, reflects the desire being reflected within the various elements of the media to adapt themselves to the new political landscape. He explained: "The role that television should play in the context of a multiparty system has been thoroughly discussed recently."

He explained that this discussion took place in connection with the draft law on the press. Television is very young, but there is no official organ handling censorship. Self-censorship has always and generally been a reality. This is also true for the other, and older media, such as radio or the press. This does not mean that there have been serious conflicts between journalists and the government. He stated: "We can say now that it is the deliberate wish of the government to liberalize all of the areas of political life, including the media."

In the view of the director general of Guinean television, the first indication of the liberal intentions of the government toward the media is the fact that the status of a chain of media will be defined in the framework of an office. He continued: "This is because at the present time the other organs of the press, whether this involves NO PINTCHA, the weekly publication, or the national radio system, are services that come directly under the Secretariat of State for Information. We think that by providing national television with a status, which will ensure its having a corporate personality and financial

autonomy, people will choose the path of modernism. We hold this view here because we consider that it will be consistent with the spirit of openness and of political modernization now under way. On the other hand this is also the best way for us to operate in a framework that will make it possible to be more efficient. It will give journalists room to maneuver."

Although it began transmission in November 1989, Guinean television is still in an experimental phase. However, it is clear that the political management of this medium, at a time when a political opposition exists, will indicate how sincere the process of political openness is. Aristide Gomes stated that: "Our rule should be a concern for objectivity. Some people may have doubts about the sincerity of political leaders. However, I am personally optimistic. If you take into account the way in which the present process of democratization has taken place, there are good reasons for hope. It is up to us to be rigorous and objective. Politicians have a natural tendency to seek to manipulate public opinion and to rely on journalists to do that. We will have to prove our professionalism."

Waiting for a Consistent Reply From the Opposition

However, the unknown factor in this process of opening up the political system lies in the ability of the Guinean opposition to express a consistent point of view. Moreover, as of now, a few days after the party congress was held, there is still a question as to how the two political parties based abroad will be treated. These parties include the FLING [Front for the Struggle for Guinea-Bissau Independence] and the Bafata [a resistance movement]. These two parties are the only ones to have been mentioned up to the present. We have not always known which political parties were going to agree to play according to the rules of the pluralistic political system, which has been announced. However, with the prospect of presidential elections with several candidates in 1993, there will be no shortage of political parties or candidates.

Ivory Coast

Houphouet Signs Decree Reorganizing Media

AB0104092291 Abidjan Domestic Service in French
0700 GMT 28 Mar 91

[Excerpts] The Cabinet met yesterday from 1030 to 1400 under the chairmanship of the head of state, His Excellency Felix Houphouet-Boigny. During the session, the president of the Republic signed decrees on the reorganization of some services. [passage omitted]

Concerning the Ministry of Communications, the president of the Republic signed decrees on the creation and organization of: a profit-oriented public corporation, Ivorian Radio and Television, RTI; a non-profit corporation called IVORIAN NEWS AGENCY, AIP; a profit-oriented corporation called Ivorian Advertising Bureau,

BIP. These changes in the legal status of the public media and their advertising board will help bring about full autonomy for these bodies; operational and management flexibility adjusted to their mission of information; a rational and coherent utilization of means, equipment, and staff; and greater dynamism in these public corporations.

Also concerning the Ministry of Communications, the president of the Republic signed decrees nominating: Ousmane Sy Savane, former director general of the advertising agency, Ivoire Media, RTI director general; Ali Coulibaly, principal class senior editor grade one, as director of Television Channel One; Serges Pacome Aoulou, first senior editor of exceptional class first grade, as director of Television Channel Two; Amangoua Amafou, RTI technical engineer of exceptional class third grade, as director of RTI technical services; Joseph Magbi Koudougnon Ballet, principal class senior editor third grade, as director of the Institute of Communications Sciences and Means; Ouattara Gnonzie, first class senior editor grade two, as director of the Radio Broadcasting station; Samba Singue Kone, principal class senior editor grade two, as AIP director. [passage omitted].

Liberia

Taylor Denies Involvement in Sierra Leone Attack

AB0204205491 London BBC World Service in English
1709 GMT 2 Apr 91

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] The main rebel group in Liberia, the National Patriotic Front, led by Mr. Charles Taylor, has denied any involvement in recent incursions into neighboring Sierra Leone. In the biggest reported incident, 19 Liberian rebels said to belong to the NPFL were killed in a clash on Sunday [31 March] with Sierra Leonean troops. In a statement, Mr. Taylor said his forces had not been involved in the clashes which, he said, were an attempt to disrupt efforts to achieve a peace settlement in Liberia.

Yesterday, the army in Sierra Leone said it was sending troops into northern Liberia to end the incursions and prepare for an offensive against Mr. Taylor's forces.

NPFL Official Denies Involvement

AB0304102891 London BBC World Service in English
0630 GMT 3 Apr 91

[From the "Network Africa" program]

[Text] [Correspondent Fiona Leballastia] Now, early this morning, I managed to make contact by satellite telephone with the National Patriotic Front of Liberia [NPFL] at their premises in Gbarnga in Liberia. I spoke to Samuel Dhokie, who is a senior official of the NPFL,

and I asked him to comment on President Momoh's allegation of NPFL involvement in the border incident.

[Begin recording] [Dhokie] From our intelligence reports, the NPFL men in arms have not been across the Sierra Leonean border. We have gone through thorough investigation and that is not true. We have a common boundary, and because of the conflict in Liberia there are many Liberians who are refugees living in Sierra Leone, and you cannot just say that they are NPFL soldiers.

[Leballastia] But President Momoh said at the press conference that two battalions of NPFL soldiers had come over into his country and that they had captured one of the commanders and some of the other troops, and they have questioned them, and that they are members of your organization.

[Dhokie] Well, this has to be proven to us, and as I am telling you, we have made the investigation at the borders and our men are all in place on our side.

[Leballastia] Is it possible that a group of your members did cross the border, not in an official capacity but, perhaps, in an undisciplined, unofficial capacity, for example, to look for food and other provisions. Is that a possibility? Did you investigate that possibility?

[Dhokie] Look, that is impossible. I cannot even go through that investigation when you are saying whether they went in search of food. [sentence as heard] We have sufficient food in our country. Our men are well fed....

[Leballastia, interrupting] It doesn't immediately sound like a particularly thorough investigation.

[Dhokie] I told you we had a thorough investigation, informed the commanders who are on the spot at the various frontiers. They have given reports that nobody went across in search of food, or any other thing.

[Leballastia] Based on what you are saying, one conclusion that can be drawn is that there are a certain number of false rumors being circulated about your organization. Would you speculate as to who is initiating these rumors, if they are rumors?

[Dhokie] Maybe this is the work of the enemy, and we cannot stop people from expressing their opinion....

[Leballastia, interrupting] You are referring to the enemy. Who do you mean by the enemy in this capacity?

[Dhokie] When I say enemy, you know, people who are not liked by everyone. We might have some people who might bid against us, and a common example, I mean, Elizabeth Blunt. I mean, she gives negative report about us. I don't know why. I mean, she could be considered enemy.

[Leballastia] Do you intend to contact the Sierra Leonean Government to discuss these allegations?

[Dhokie] Yes. President Taylor has decided that we will contact the Sierra Leonean Government....

[Leballastia, interrupting] When do you expect to make contact with them?

[Dhokie] Well, as soon it is necessary; it is possible we will get in contact with them.

[Leballastia] What do you mean, as soon as possible; I mean, you only, I mean, have to make a phone call, surely.

[Dhokie] (?Certainly), but now you are on the phone and we are still talking, and this is the only line we have got [laughter] so, if....

[Leballastia, interrupting] So when we finish our conversation you will be calling up President Momoh (?at home), is that it?

[Dhokie] Yea, yea, yea, yea. We will be calling there. [end recording]

Ghana Said To Withdraw ECOMOG Battalion

*AB0204221591 Voinjamaa Radio ELRV in English
1900 GMT 2 Apr 91*

[Text] Reports yet unconfirmed say the Ghanaian Government is to withdraw one of its two battalions serving under ECOMOG [Economic Community of West African States Cease-Fire Monitoring Group]. The withdrawal, according to military specialists, [words indistinct] ECOMOG at a time when support for ECOMOG operations in Liberia is to be (?mandatory). Last week, the Government of Sierra Leone pulled out all of its troops serving under ECOMOG in Monrovia.

Letter Said Circulating on Withdrawal

*AB0304090491 London BBC World Service in English
1709 GMT 2 Apr 91*

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] In the Liberian capital, Monrovia, there are reports that all might not be well in the West African force, ECOMOG [Economic Community of West African States Cease-Fire Monitoring Group]. The force is composed of troops from five nations: Nigeria, Ghana, Sierra Leone, Guinea, and Gambia. The presence of all these nationalities has been important in reflecting the West African nature of the intervention to find peace in Liberia but if reports from the capital, Monrovia, are to be believed, there is a question mark over just how long Ghana's contingent may be with the ECOMOG forces. From Monrovia, Scott Sterns telexed this report:

[Begin studio announcer recording] According to sources who claim to have seen copies of a letter circulating here from President Rawlings to regional foreign ministers, one Ghanaian battalion [Ghanbat] will be withdrawn and the other limited exclusively to peacekeeping. Ghana has expressed concern in the past at the use of its soldiers in military encounters with rebels of Charles

Taylor's National Patriotic Front. Mounting political pressure at home and lobbying by other involved governments has been intense.

ECOWAS [Economic Community of West African States] representative Joshua Iroha said he had not received the letter and believed Ghana would not make such a decision without consulting the other regional powers. If the letter exists, I do not have it, he said after days of consultations with foreign ministers assembled for Liberia's national conference. Foreign Ministry officials of Ghana and Togo spent the weekend telling the conference that ECOMOG would not fight to clear Taylor from the north of the country.

With Sierra Leone's troops now over the border into Lofa County and the conference set to end before Taylor's delegation returns from its self-imposed recess, there is much discussion at the conference about ECOMOG's future. In an interview this afternoon, interim President Amos Sawyer said ECOMOG would soon be asked to implement the cease-fire agreement negotiated in Lome. Sawyer, however, denied any knowledge of the letter regarding Ghanaian soldiers. Sawyer believes that Ghana continues to support the ECOWAS peace plan and the full participation of its troops in ECOMOG.

Force commander Major General Kupolati had not been told of an adjustment in Ghanaian troop levels, but said losing one battalion would not affect ECOMOG's ability to reinforce a nationwide cease-fire if so asked. Politically, the move would almost certainly strengthen Taylor's resolve to delay the process while enthusiasm for ECOMOG wanes. [end recording]

Another NPFL Official Reportedly Resigns

AB0204153591 Paris AFP in English 1519 GMT
2 Apr 91

[Excerpts] Monrovia, April 2 (AFP)—A senior member of Charles Taylor's National Patriotic Front of Liberia (NPFL) resigned Monday charging that the NPFL leadership was unwilling to negotiate a peaceful end to the country's 15 month civil war. In a statement, Toga Macintosh Gaiway, economic affairs minister in Mr. Taylor's shadow government set up last July, said he left the organization because of differences of opinion with the rebel command. "I have no regrets and no apologies because I have worked with the NPFL with the best of my ability," Mr. Gaiway said in his statement distributed here.

Last week Mr. Taylor replaced Mr. Gaiway at the head of the group's delegation to an ongoing national conference by Defense Spokesman Tom Woewiyu, who led the rebel walkout from the meeting last Wednesday [27 March]. The NPFL delegation charged that two of the meeting's three chairmen were biased against them.

No reason was given for the replacement, but conference sources said it was linked with a promise Mr. Gaiway had given at a recent news briefing that the NPFL would

not leave the conference until lasting peace was achieved. A former official at the Economic Commission for Africa in the Ethiopian capital Addis Ababa, Mr. Gaiway also told reporters that despite the absence of Mr. Taylor, "the decisions at the conference will be binding."

He has not been seen in public since his replacement and has not returned to the NPFL government headquarters at Gbarnga City, some 15 kilometers (95 miles) north of here for what conference sources said were security reasons. [passage omitted]

Monrovia radio, monitored in Freetown, reported on Tuesday that another senior NPFL official, Momulu Sirleaf, has also resigned. Mr. Sirleaf, the editor and publisher of the FOOTPRINTS newspaper, had served as Mr. Taylor's spokesman for information.

AFL's Bowen 'Ready To Serve' Future Leader

AB0204172891 London BBC World Service in English
1709 GMT 1 Apr 91

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] In the course of the numerous efforts that have been made to bring lasting peace to Liberia, the spotlight has tended to focus either on the rebel leaders, Charles Taylor and Prince Johnson, or the interim president, Amos Sawyer. But also involved are what remains of President Doe's Armed Forces of Liberia [AFL]. Since Doe was killed, those forces have been commanded by General Hezekiah Bowen, who took over at one point as temporary head of state. It was the ruthless suppression by the Army—which, increasingly, was drawn from Doe's own Krahn tribe—of the rebellion in Nimba County which fueled the flames of the conflict, which is yet to be resolved. The hope is that at some point in the future, elections will be held for a new president. In Monrovia, Elizabeth Blunt spoke to Gen. Bowen and asked him if he would serve whoever wins:

[Begin recording] [Bowen] Oh well, definitely. We are here to serve anybody who the Liberian people will agree upon and say this person is the president of the country; We are ready to serve the person.

[Blunt] Would your men serve Charles Taylor if he were chosen?

[Bowen] Well, with us, we don't choose. Anybody the Liberian people will accept, we accept that person.

[Blunt] A national army really has to reflect the whole nation, reflect the balance of the nation. What about the ethnic tribal balance of the Army at present? Your battalion here, is it.... [changes thought] I mean, people perceive it as being a Krahn army.

[Bowen] A Krahn army, I know. Well, Elizabeth, thank you very much for asking this question. It is a very big mistake. I regret to say here that the people really did not come to ask us who are in the army. But this army is

composed of every ethnic group in Liberia. Right now, you have the Loma, you have the Pele, you have the Gio, you have the Mano here with us in the army. So actually we are not...

[Blunt, interrupting] Are they majority Krahn?

[Bowen] Well, what you see today, majority.... [changes thought] You will say majority Krahn today, because the thing was intended, this invasion was intended, or this incursion was intended to kill the Krahn and Mandingo. And so the other tribes said: Well, look, since they are coming to look for these people, let me just drop my arms right away and go and sit down. And so the Krahn man said: Goddamn it! I will not sit down here and let somebody come and kill me! So before you kill me, I will kill you. This is why you see majority of the Krahns remained here and the other people ran away. But those who ran away, you will be surprised to know here that, Miss Blunt, that they are coming in and we have received about 250 of these people who defected from us. And when they came, we embraced them because we don't want them to stay on the street there to cause trouble tomorrow. So we embraced them to keep them with us in the society. But then we have to rehabilitate them by sending them to the Engineer Battalion, some will go to the Agriculture Battalion, and they are not to handle arms right now because we really don't know what their intentions are. We will put them in these places so that we keep our eyes on them.

[Blunt] What about.... [changes thought] Looking forward to an eventual peace settlement, could you bring into the Army some of the men and young men that have been fighting with other factions? Do you think that would be possible?

[Bowen] Oh yes, yes, yes, yes. That would be very very much.... [changes thought] I mean, that would be possible. But let me make a point here. This guy has been fighting. He has been living on drugs. And so they need counselling. They need some psychiatrist to work on them, to make sure that he (?has talked) with them. You take three months to rehabilitate them, hide them somewhere, something like a vocational school. Keep them there, let them [word indistinct] off the war business completely. Then from that point, you will be able to pick them, you know, make your selection from the group. But not everyone of them will come into the Army, because you have to evaluate them, and from the counselling method you have the churches to do that, you have the medical people to check on their.... [changes thought] All these kinds of things, brainwash and some other things, you know. It takes time, it takes time. But definitely, they will have to come back because if you leave them out in the society they will get back into the bush and maybe cause another trouble. [end recording]

Mali

Transition Committee Modifies Nationwide Curfew

AB0204162091 Bamako Domestic Service in French
1500 GMT 2 Apr 91

[Communique issued by the Transition Committee for the Salvation of the People, CTSP, in Bamako on 2 April]

[Text] Effective today, 2 April 1991, the curfew imposed on the entire national territory will henceforth be in effect from midnight until five o'clock in the morning.

Amadou Toure on Former Leader, Army's Role

PM0304083491 Paris LE FIGARO in French
28 Mar 91 p 3

[Interview with new Malian military leader Amadou Toure by Patrick de Saint-Exupery in Bamako—date not given]

[Text] Bamako—[Saint-Exupery] How did the coup d'etat take place, and now that you are de facto Mali's new strong man, what are your intentions?

[Toure] Moussa Traore's blind obstinacy in trying to remain in power without taking account of the country's democratic aspirations condemned him. We, the military, merely followed the aspirations of the masses who had the courage to show us the way. I have given my country a pledge: We are fully committed to this new tide of democracy.

We have experimented with the single party system and that has only led to misfortune. It is time to change course and move toward a real multiparty system.

[Saint-Exupery] How will the transition to a multiparty system be made?

[Toure] We think that in the present phase, we must not disregard other people, in other words the population and the various organizations. With goodwill we will work sincerely in tolerance and reconciliation to establish a program that will lead to free and democratic elections. A political timetable will be drawn up but we have not yet set a date.

[Saint-Exupery] No, but we must move quickly. The most important thing is that the administration exists and I thank the National Union of Malian Workers (the former single union—LE FIGARO editor's note) for that because it agreed to lift its indefinite strike. With our partners from all sides—not just the military—we will draft a program. In view of the scale of the destruction, Mali really needs to get back to work.

[Saint-Exupery] Will Moussa Traore be put on trial?

[Toure] I do not think so. I am not a public prosecutor. My duty and the Army's duty was to arrest Moussa. That

has been done. It is no longer up to the Army to decide his fate. The legal system and the Malian people will decide.

[Saint-Exupery] Have all of Moussa Traore's former aides been arrested?

[Toure] Former aides have been arrested but mainly to guarantee their safety. The wave of violence that has swept over Mali has hit many officials. We have arrested some of them to save them from what the population planned to do to them. And also because it is currently not desirable for some of them to move about freely.

[Saint-Exupery] Many people have expressed reservations about your entourage which contains a large proportion of Moussa Traore's former aides. People in the street are frequently heard saying: "Moussa has gone but nothing has changed. Everything will start again, just as it did when he took power. Traore made the same promises as Toure." What do you think of that?

[Toure] It is an unfounded accusation. The most important thing, the main objective, was to remove Moussa Traore. If some prominent people are still in some positions carrying out their duties, there is nothing to say that that situation will continue. The most difficult thing for us was the initial challenge.

The prominent figures about whom the people are talking are not here to stay and we will not stay. The military are here to administer a transitional phase, to restore reconciliation, and I think that this is no time for accusations because we are calling for reconciliation.

[Saint-Exupery] How is Moussa Traore and what are the circumstances surrounding his arrest?

[Toure] Moussa Traore is well. I cannot say anything about the circumstances surrounding his arrest. I think I will recount them in my memoirs, if God spares me.

AFP Gives Details on New Prime Minister

AB0204175091 Paris AFP in English 1450 GMT 2 Apr 91

[Excerpts] Bamako, April 2 (AFP)—Mali's new administration, formed after the ouster of military ruler Moussa Traore, has given the prime minister's job to popular ex-finance minister Soumana Sacko, state radio and television announced Tuesday. Mr. Sacko, an economist who briefly ran the Finance and Trade Ministry in 1987, currently holds a United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) post in Bangui, capital of the Central African Republic.

Known in Mali as "the sheriff", Mr. Sacko would be expected to help oversee a nine-month transition to a multi-party democracy after the Army on March 25 ended 22 years of dictatorship. His short career as finance minister came to an abrupt end after he detained a Belgian Sabena airlines plane at Bamako airport, announcing that he suspected it was being used to

smuggle gold out of the West African country. Persistent but unconfirmed reports at the time had it that Mariame Traore, the wife of the authoritarian military President Moussa Traore, was behind the contraband operation. [passage omitted]

Mr. Sacko, born in 1950, made a reputation for strictness and efficiency with his habit, as finance minister, of turning up unannounced and incognito at government offices to see how employees were doing their work. "This man is going to pull our economy into shape, and does it need it!" one of the leaders of last month's insurrection told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE on Tuesday. The source added that the CTSP [Transition Committee for the Salvation of the People] would later Tuesday or on Wednesday publish its "Ordinance No. 1", authorizing the formation of political parties. General Traore was in "good health" but investigations that may lead to a trial have yet to begin, the source also disclosed.

Niger

Saibou Receives Saudi Armed Forces Commander

LD0204220191 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 2 Apr 91

[Text] His Excellency the President of the Niger Republic, Brigadier General Ali Saibou, received this morning at the republican palace His Royal Highness Lieutenant General Khalid Bin-Sultan-Bin-'Abd-al-Aziz, commander of the joint forces, who is currently on a visit to the Niger Republic.

During the reception, his highness the commander of the joint forces conveyed the greetings of the custodian of the two holy mosques, the supreme commander of the armed forces, of his highness the heir apparent, and his highness the second deputy, to his excellency the president of the Niger Republic.

The meeting was attended by his excellency the Niger foreign minister, Mahamane Sani Bako, and the Niger Army Chief of the General Staff, Colonel Toumba Bou-bacar.

His Royal Highness Lieutenant General Khalid Bin-Sultan-Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz, accompanied by the Niger Army chief of the general staff, paid a visit to a military training center where he went on a tour and surveyed the equipment and material. He then listened to a brief explanation of the tasks performed by the center.

Journalist Group Communique on Press Freedom

AB0204140991 Niamey Domestic Service in French 1200 GMT 1 Apr 91

[Text] After two days of deliberations, the Niger Journalist Association [AJN] ended their general assembly this morning at the national television headquarters. The participants discussed the following topics on their

agenda: conditions for their taking part in the organization, holding of the national conference, and their stand on the current political situation prevailing in Niger.

The deliberations during the general assembly were marked by the spirit of multiparty democracy in progress in Niger, and a final communique was published at the end of the meeting, read here by (Andre Joly) AJN president:

[Begin (Joly) recording] We journalists and communications technicians, on Saturday, 30 March and Monday, 1 April, adopted the following resolutions during our general assembly:

First: We took note of the new political situation prevailing in our country:

- 1) The establishment of a multiparty system in our country;
- 2) The recognition of various political factions;
- 3) Freedom of the press, association, and for gatherings and demonstrations;

We are hereby expressing our determination to see our actions reflect this sociopolitical reality in the various information organs by assuring a fair report on all events and respect for freedom of the press in the context of this new multiparty system.

Second: considering the essential role to be played by the media in the success of the democratic experiment and the safeguarding of the freedom guaranteed in the Constitution,

Considering an independent press to be a guarantee for freedom, that it will strengthen the democratic process, and taking into account its characteristic as a public service:

We recommend:

- The establishment of a legal legislative body that will encourage the creation of audiovisual resources and local and regional newspapers;
- The establishment of financial and technical regulations for the creation of a truly independent press through direct and indirect contacts between authorities and journalists;
- The review without delay of Ordinance 59-135 of 21 July 1959 on the law about freedom of the press, amended by the Law 74-24 of 6 April 1974;
- The creation of a national committee on communication which will be a body independent of the Government and in charge of the implementation and observance of the new law for regulating the press.

In this regard, it should be guaranteed that journalists are represented.

Third: Regarding the censorship imposed on our profession, we demand a definitive end to this practice which is against the ethics of our profession and we demand the right for all to obtain information.

Fourth: Being convinced of the essential role to be played by the press during the upcoming national conference and the future elections, the AJN is hereby inviting its members to strictly observe the ethics of the journalistic profession while reporting on events and calls on the sense of solidarity of all its members; the AJN is hereby pledging to cover these events rigorously and faultlessly.

As for the national conference itself, the AJN, as a full-fledged member of this forum, reaffirms that it is necessary that it be represented at this important meeting during which essential issues relating to the present and future of Niger will be discussed.

The AJN can be represented by anyone designated during an AJN general assembly, the sole organ whose decisions are recognized by all journalists and communication technicians. The AJN also reiterates its willingness to work toward unity and constructing the Niger nation.

Signed in Niamey on 1 April by the AJN at the end of its general assembly. [end recording]

In another development, the AJN general assembly also formally noted the signing of the protocol agreement between the government and the Federation of Labor Unions of Niger [USTN]. The communique is read by the secretary general of the AJN, Mr. Mahamat Souley:

[Begin Souley recording] The AJN general assembly, held from 30 March to 1 April, formally takes note of the protocol agreement signed on Sunday 31 March by the USTN and the government, notably, Article 55 relating to the free access of the unions, associations, and political parties to the national media. Therefore, the implementation of this clause should take into account the professional ethics of journalism.

Signed in Niamey, on 1 April, the general assembly. [end recording]

Trade Union Hails Accord With Government

AB0204131091 London BBC World Service in English
1709 GMT 1 Apr 91

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] In Niger, the government appears to have reached a temporary truce with the country's trade unions. Niger has been affected by a wave of strikes in recent weeks as the trade unions tried to force the government to make changes in its political and economic programs. The unions had called another strike for Wednesday this week but following a series of meetings with the government, they called it off after the government agreed to a number of their demands. On the line to Niamey, Dan Isaacs spoke to Mohamed Moussa, spokesman of the trade unions federation in Niger and asked him what the government had agreed to:

[Begin recording] [Moussa] All the economic demands, they have accepted them; that is one. Also, we have some political demands such as the freedom of the media and they have accepted that in the process of democracy the media should be free. So, from yesterday, we have already gone to the stations of the radio and the television, and we talked to the people of Niger about the freedom of the media in Niger, and we went there to read the agreement at the national radio and television too. Those are some of the major points. I think the agreement is very good. As you know, we have 28 unions, and the 28 unions agreed with the agreement we made yesterday.

[Isaacs] On the political front, what is the ultimate aim of the union? Are you going all out for demands of multi-party democracy or do your demands stop short of that?

[Moussa] No, our aim is for democracy; total democracy, and the government actually agreed with a total democratic system. As you know, the new Constitution of the Republic of Niger was actually agreed by the National Assembly, and it says there is total democracy in Niger. That is first, and actually, in the agreement we have made yesterday, the government agreed to set up a committee to prepare the national conference during the month of May. So, actually, what we should do tomorrow, is to meet the government again so that we can set up the composition of this committee which is going to prepare the national conference.

[Isaacs] What role will the unions play in this transition to democracy? What role do you want the union to play?

[Moussa] The unions are going to be a kind of referee. We are not going to take positions for this party or another party. We are going to be outside of the parties. We are fighting so that we should get at least three or five national parties, and the unions are not going to take position for one or another party.

[Isaacs] Do you have any fears that the course of events that happened in Mali, in neighboring Mali, and the bloody recent events could repeat themselves, could happen in Niger, or do you think you have got past that stage?

[Moussa] We are decided to refute any military government in Niger. I do not hope, I fully do not hope that we are not going to face the case of Mali. [sentence as heard] Now, the military, we do not like their rule. We have faced that in Niger here and I think the military accept this, and if in any case they want to take power, we are going to call on a general strike until they leave this power. [end recording]

Nigeria

* Press Freedom Termed Essential for Transition

91AF0792C Lagos THE GUARDIAN in English
8 Feb 91 p 13

[Article by Anselm Odinkalu, an attorney with the Civil Liberties Organisation, Lagos. Words in caps and italics as published.]

[Text] Although Decree No. 19 of 1987 (as amended) which makes it a crime for anyone to "misrepresent, distort the details or purport of any item of the political programme" provides a legal basis for restricting press freedom during the transition. It is noteworthy that apart from the aborted Gani Fawehinmi and Balarabe Musa trials in 1989, no other prosecution has been brought under the decree. The government has rather been content to issue spasmodic threats, criticisms, and warnings concerning the perceived inadequacies of press.

In the past few weeks, the press in Nigeria has taken a great deal of flak for what has been generally perceived, in certain quarters, as its "anti-government," "unduly sensational" and "unpatriotic" reportage of the news. Indeed, even Vice-President Augustus Aikhomu most recently came dangerously close to accusing the press of deliberately undermining the transition programme.

Press freedom by the way is nowhere expressly guaranteed under the 1979 Constitution (as amended). However, it is generally accepted that it is subsumed in the twin constitutional guarantees of freedom of thought and conscience and freedom of expression, enshrined respectively in sections 35 and 36 of the 1979 Constitution. The marginal note to section 36 reads "Right to Freedom of expression and the Press" (emphasis added). It is again noteworthy that these sections of the constitution have not been suspended under (or for the purpose of) the transition decrees. This is probably informed by the realisation that the press is an indispensable midwife of democratic transition.

As beautifully summarised by the European Human Rights Court in the HANDYSIDE CASE (Judgement of 7 December 1976, series A, No. 24; 1 EHRR. 737 at para 49): "Freedom of expression constitutes one of the essential foundations of a...democratic society, one of the basic conditions for its progress, and for the development of every man,...it is applicable not only to "information" or "ideas" that are favourably received or regarded as inoffensive or as a matter of indifference, but also to those that offend, shock or disturb the state or any sector of the population. Such are the demands of that pluralism, tolerance and broad mindedness without which there is no democratic society."

These observations are most germane to our country during this period of transition. All too often government officials berate the press for carrying news and opinions that portray the government or some of its

officials in a bad light. This tendency reached unacceptably rabid proportions during the heydays of the infamous (and now repealed) Public Officers (Protection Against Accusation) Decree No. 4 of 1984. Even today, the human rights pretensions of the present administration notwithstanding, unfavourable press reports of conduct of persons in authority are regarded as "mischievous." Often-times, grave consequences have befallen the "erring" journalist or press house.

The truth is that the press, particularly the unofficial press is not there to do a public relations job for the government. A decision to publish usually involves a delicate balancing of numerous competing, but hardly conflicting interests. Such interests include, on the one hand, the government's interest in maintaining a good image, and, on the other hand, the public's interest in knowing how the country is governed. According to section 21 of the 1979 Constitution: "The press, radio, television and other agencies or the mass media shall at all times be free to uphold the fundamental objectives contained in this chapter and uphold the responsibility and accountability of the Government to the people" (*emphasis added*).

The tendency in official circles to see every adverse press report on the government or a government official in a bad light reflects a wide-spread and regrettable inclination in these parts to equate the government of the day with the state. To students of political science, the distinction between the government and the state is a necessary and familiar one. Whenever it is blurred, dictatorship results. The press owes its duties not to the government but to the state and can only support programmes and actions that promote the general good. The corollary of this is that there is a duty on the press, whenever the government is or appears to be going wrong, to raise an alarm. These are the two sides of the coin which we call press freedom.

In addition to these considerations, there is also the argument, hardly disputable, that public office is a collective trust demanding of its holders the highest level of probity and moral credibility. A vibrant press is the surest safeguard against abuse of public office. The easiest way to institutionalise executive irresponsibility is to silence the press. To use the word of the Pakistani Judge, Mahannad Shafi J. in *Hussain Bakhsh Kasuor v The State* (P.L.D.) 1958 (W.P.) Peshawar 15), "To criticise a minister is no offence. If the ministers are held above public criticism then it would amount to this: that if a person, by fair or foul means, attains to that height, then the people cannot make any effort to remove him nor can his own errors, even if he repeats them twenty times, or his corruption, undemocratic action or mal-administration, dislodge him from that position. Public platform is the only place from where the misdeeds of those who hold the reins of government can be exposed. If that is shut out, democracy will see its end in no time."

These then are the reasons why press freedom is indispensable during this transition programme. An attempt

overtly or covertly now or during the remainder of the transition, to restrict press freedom, will put a question mark on the intentions of the government and cast doubts on the credibility of the transition programme.

In saying this, one is aware of the fact that press freedom of the press can be put to mischievous ends. The fact however, remains, that there are more than enough laws in our law books to deal with such cases. Even then, it is well to remember the famous counsel of Lord Atkin in *AMBARD V.A.G. TRINIDAD & TOBAGO* [(1936) A.C. 322 at 335] that "the path of criticism is a public way: "The wrong headed are permitted to err therein." This is as it ought to be.

*Government Designs Incentives for Gas Investors

91AF0792F Lagos *THE GUARDIAN* in English
9 Feb 91 pp 1, 2

[Article by Pius Mordi]

[Text] Gas has got a new minimum price—N [naira] 5.24 per million standard cubic feet (mscf) and an incentive package designed to encourage investment in the industry, which will play a vital role in Nigeria's economy as from 1995 when the liquefied natural gas (LNG) project comes on stream.

The minimum price may be adjusted yearly for rising costs.

It was not clear last night what the new prices portended for domestic (cooking) gas.

By late last year the price of refilling a 12.5-kilogramme cylinder had climbed up to N35.

It used to cost N10.

Under the old pricing policy, the National Electric Power Authority (NEPA) bought gas at N3 per (mscf) and the National Fertilizer Company of Nigeria (NAFCON) paid N4. Both will now pay the minimum N5.24—the general price for other consumers.

Oil companies are, however, to fix their prices.

For NEPA, the new price translates into an increase of about 74.67 percent in the cost of generating electricity at the Egbin Power Station.

Under the fiscal package, the tax rate under the Petroleum Profit Tax Act is 40 percent, same as company tax.

To encourage the importation of the relevant equipment for gas production, the government has introduced a yearly capital allowance rate of 20 percent for the first four years. For the fifth year, the capital allowance is slightly up to 19 percent. The remaining 1 percent is "in the books."

A rate of 5 percent has also been set as investment tax credit. Besides, the royalty on on-shore produced gas is 7 percent; that of the gas produced offshore is 5 percent.

Gas transmission and distribution also attracted similar fiscal package.

A capital allowance rate of 20 percent has been approved for the first four years, 19 percent in the fifth year and 1 percent in the books.

The present company tax rate of 40 percent was also approved. Investors under the transmission and distribution sub-sector will enjoy a tax holiday under the pioneer status.

The supply of gas to the LNG project also attracted incentives package. They are:

- a 45 percent tax rate under the Petroleum Profit Tax. This is 5 percent more than that under the fiscal package for gas production.
- allowance on capital investment, which is 33 percent yearly in the first three years with 1 percent remaining in the books. Unlike the package on gas production, which has an investment tax credit of 5 percent, 10 percent credit is for gas supply to the LNG project; and
- a similar royalty of 7 percent for gas produced on-shore and 5 percent for off-shore produced gas was approved.

Besides aiming at the production of adequate gas to feed the LNG, the new policy is envisaged to encourage increased use of cooking gas through the acceleration of the butanisation programme.

Industries wishing to convert to gas in sourcing their energy needs will, however, have to negotiate with the oil companies to fix an acceptable price.

At present, it costs gas producers N5.35 to produce a million standard cubic feet of natural gas.

Nigeria's gas reserves are estimated at over 104 trillion cubic feet (tcf), representing about 2.6 percent of the world's reserves of 4,000 tcf as at January last year.

Senegal

Mauritanian Border Calm; Peace Talks Under Way

Sy Positive on Initiative

91AF0673A Dakar LE SOLEIL in French
26 Dec 90 p 3

[Article by Sidy M. Ndiaye: "A Plan To Resolve the Senegalese-Mauritanian Conflict"]

[Text] "We have completed an important stage—more important than a mere reading of the communique had made it seem."

On his return from Bamako, where the meeting of the Commission for Mediation between Senegal and Mauritania was held on 23 and 24 December, Senegalese Minister of Foreign Affairs Seydina Oumar Sy told the press of his impressions.

Describing the meeting as positive, the minister said that the discussions at this third meeting were "frank and very open." "We now have a more precise idea of the plan for resolving the conflict," he said, "and all fundamental issues will be raised in the process of searching for a solution."

Seydina Oumar Sy expressed his gratitude to the Malian Government and its leader, General Moussa Traore, for their initiative and the facilities offered for the meeting. He then praised the common desire of the Mauritanian and Senegalese peoples to seek a just and durable peace.

"We are returning satisfied," he said. "We shall submit our report first to the chief of state and he will evaluate it in the light of the directives that he had previously given us...."

When he was asked what aspects of the plans outlined at Bamako III gave cause for hope, the chief of the Senegalese diplomatic service was guarded in his reply, choosing to confine himself to a brief statement. "The plan must be studied by the two heads of state," he said. "President Moussa Traore will continue his efforts at mediation. Moreover, my Malian counterpart will be in Dakar shortly to continue the talks."

When he was also asked to confirm the actual availability of the Mauritanian side for dialogue, the foreign minister concluded his remarks by saying, "We are determined to proceed at the same pace in our joint search for a solution. This is important."

Reasons Given for Lull

91AF0673B Dakar SUD HEBDO in French
17 Jan 91 p 4, 5

[Article by special correspondent Demba Ndiaye: "The Vale of Tears"; first paragraph is SUD HEBDO introduction]

[Excerpts] Twenty-one months after the rift developed between Senegal and Mauritania, there is no reason to predict that the dislocated social "joints" will be reset, despite official statements that are addressed more to the international community than to the populations that are directly experiencing this situation, which is neither war nor peace. The time that has elapsed—enshrouded in a veritable conspiracy of silence—has made us almost forget that in northern Senegal, less than 400 kilometers from Dakar, hundreds of thousands of people live in a poisonous environment, even though for several months a flow of tourists has delayed and alleviated the euthanasia. The fresh water of the river that formerly nourished the crops—making the grass grow for the livestock and tempering the climate—has been as if transformed

into hot tears that are scalding every aspect of life. A long trip by automobile.... [passage omitted]

A Lull?

The former port worker began to talk freely, and he unburdened himself on the subject of the current situation in Mauritania. Is there a lull? "Yes!" he said. "The Mauritanian Government disarmed the Haratines at the time of the municipal elections, and the situation has been calm since then." It is as good an explanation as any other, and appears to corroborate the apparent calm prevailing in the region.

When we met with Dial Diop, governor of the river region, in his historic office (it was formerly Faidherbe's), he suggested a different explanation but wanted to make it clear that he was doing so "as an individual, as a citizen." "Mauritania's alignment," he said, "induced the money lenders to turn off the taps (for Mauritania). In the wake of the most recent unsuccessful coup d'etat," he continued, "the authorities in Nouakchott are once again faced with problems in the area of race relations. Moreover, the Senegalese-Mauritanian crisis is costing Mauritania approximately 20 billion francs that the Moors living here used to bring back every year. There is also the fact that the iron mines at Zouerate are worked out, and last, the fishing industry—which had been completely dominated by the Senegalese—is no longer functioning." Whatever the reasons, the fact remains that "the situation has been calm for two or three months, although punctuated by several incidents that are the work of certain refugees." [passage omitted]

We wanted to know—without lapsing into a macabre body count—how many victims there had been in 21 months of skirmishing. The governor rubbed his clean-shaven chin and suddenly exclaimed, "I don't know whether I can give you that figure." "Why not? It was done in the case of Casamance four months ago." He leafed through the "logbook" that he kept up to date, and then said, "I cannot tell you." Then, changing his mind, he said, "You can say that there were a number of victims." "A number of victims? That could mean thousands." He gave a start, stared at me, and said, "Oh, no!" I wasn't going to be able to get him to disclose the numbers. As a civil servant, he believed he was the keeper of an important state secret. I raised the question of security, quoting the people living along the river to the effect that they are exposed to Mauritanian gunfire and that "the Army always arrives too late." To which Dial Diop gave a blunt reply, as if I had said something absurd. "The Army is doing a good job, and the people are being well protected," he said, "but how can you watch over a 600-kilometer stretch? You'd have to use the entire Senegalese Army." The security problem is what most concerns not only the local populations but also—and primarily—the refugees. [passage omitted]

The Life of a Refugee

At the hospital in St. Louis, where we went to get some figures, it was difficult to find anyone who was in charge.

Louis Camara, the head of SUTSAS [Single Union of Health and Welfare Workers], has listed the locations of the health care facilities of the region, which he describes as catastrophic. "In the entire St. Louis region," he says, "there is no pharmacist, and in Ourossogui—the site of one of the largest concentrations of refugees—there is no doctor. In Ndioum there is only one surgeon; and unless it receives technical assistance, the hospital in St. Louis faces an impossible situation."

When a temporary situation takes on a permanent character, the conduct of everyday affairs becomes nightmarish. People organize as best they can in order to survive. They organize with every passing day that further dims the prospects for a return to the homeland. They have set up a National Administrative Committee and departmental committees to manage their lives and their relations with the NGO's [nongovernmental organizations] and other humanitarian aid organizations. In this connection, the High Commissioner for Refugees [UNHCR] appears to be playing an important role that is acknowledged by the refugees themselves. Caritas [relief organization] and UNICEF are also involved.

The unmarried men and women prepare their meals collectively. The World Islamic League—which had previously maintained a strong presence—has not been involved since August. The coincidence with the events in Kuwait has not failed to impress the refugees. They explain, however, that the World Islamic League has given them to understand that "the cessation of their activities is only temporary and was linked to the problems in the Gulf." With only a few exceptions the refugees are not working, and Camara comments with irony that contrary to rumors, they have not been given any land. "Only the women are making ends meet," Mamadou Kebe tells us confidentially, "by reselling millet in the marketplace to buy other necessities." Rations of sugar—and also of onions—are distributed only rarely, and rations of rice have been halted. In the education sector, only elementary school students have been able to enroll in the Senegalese schools, or to attend classes in the schools set up by the refugees themselves with refugees acting as teachers and paid (proselytized?) by Caritas. Secondary school students do not attend school. As for higher education, some students have been able to enroll this year.

"Only Armed Struggle"

The precarious nature of their existence is revealed by the condition of the broken awnings. "They never had the foresight to replace them, and after every rain there is damage," Abou Sall explains. The wind that covers the region with a thick layer of sand penetrates the makeshift tents. The worn-out sheets that cover the old mattresses must offer little protection against the chill of the night, especially since there has been no supplementary distribution of clothing. The problem of medical care—which was initially provided by the World Islamic League—has been solved by the refugees themselves, who set up a

medical hut. The organizations "Doctors Without Frontiers" and "Doctors of the World" have also become involved. To operate the medical hut, the refugees contribute 200 grams of millet per month per person for the purchase of the medicines.

It goes without saying that politics is a major topic of conversation. In the view of this member of the FLAM [African Liberation Forces of Mauritania], for example, "the Senegalese authorities have taken responsibility for the safety of the refugees, and this has at least revived our spirits." What has become of their vigilance committees? "They have been dropped, because they were not effective. You know, you can't provide security with axes and sticks." He acknowledged that groups of marauders had been crossing the river. "That is no longer the case," he explained, "and they are in no way connected with the political organizations, which have their own programs and political plans."

He minimized the incidents that have occurred among the different organizations—FLAM, FURAM [United Front for Armed Resistance in Mauritania], and FRUIDAM [Front for Unity, Independence, and Democracy in Mauritania], and emphasized the "community of objectives" embodied in the "armed struggle," whose target is the Mauritanian Government and its system. With reference to the most recent events in Mauritania, he spoke instead of a "coup d'état by the government against the Negro Mauritania," based on the fact that the people who were arrested are "customs officials and sailors" as well as "civilians." "How can you carry out a coup d'état with such as these?" was his ironic comment. What about their return to the country? "The mediation and the negotiations will fail," he said, "for it is a question of settling the issue of the Mauritanian Negroes. The fact is that the people currently in the government at Nouakchott are not ready to receive us. No black today has any confidence in that government; it cannot guarantee our safety." What then? "There is a limit to what we can accept," he said. "We cannot understand why elsewhere (he cites Liberia, the Sudan, and Somalia) people have been able to solve their problems through armed struggle and we cannot do the same." Adama Sow, about 50, a former crane operator at the port, nodded his approval and then said, "We will only return through the use of force." This is the conviction, he said, of "the great majority of the refugees who were in the military, the gendarmerie, and the police. We were the ones who defeated the Sahraouis," he added.

You do not have to be a military strategist to realize that the river region is a boiling pot. The calm that currently prevails remains dramatically fragile, no matter what the pretext for the "incidents." Moreover, 80,000 refugees and repatriates cannot help but make life more difficult in this region, especially since trade was halted between the two countries, inasmuch as the region—and Dagana in particular—has been a major supplier of vegetables for Mauritania. Moreover, prostitution has assumed enormous proportions and especially at Richard Toll, where it had already been cause for concern. "We have

taken exceptional measures of control and prevention" to abate this phenomenon, the governor insisted. "The Senegalese Sugar Company already has 4,000 permanent employees and 3,000 additional employees during the cane-cutting season, but there is no need to dramatize the situation," he concluded.

The situation in the river region does not need to be dramatized. It is dramatic enough.

Refugees' Future Questioned

91AF0673C Dakar LE TEMOIN in French
8 Jan 91 p 4

[Article by A.A.S.: "What Kind of Future for the Deportees?"]

[Text] Between Senegal and Mauritania there is the thorny problem of the Mauritanian Negro deportees, whose return to their country was (is it still?) demanded by Senegal. It is a demand that Mauritania has chosen not to honor. Nouakchott clearly no longer wants these "pariahs" to return. A number of questions therefore arise. Will Senegal integrate these deportees and ultimately make them citizens? Or will they merely become a wandering people? Among these expatriates—all of whom have become opponents of their country's government—there are a large number of activists, grouped in the African Liberation Forces of Mauritania (FLAM), the Front for Unity, Independence, and Democracy in Mauritania (FRUIDEM), and the United Front for Armed Resistance in Mauritania (FURAM). It is an indisputable fact that Senegal is today the rear base (the only base?) for these resistance movements. Throughout the conflict the Nouakchott regime has unceasingly accused Senegal of arming "bandits" to carry out heinous crimes on its territory. Moreover, every time there is an attempt at destabilization in Mauritania the authorities of that country are quick to point an accusing finger in the direction of Senegal.

Today the question is: what fate will be in store for these opponents of that regime as a result of the negotiations? The Mauritanian regime is going to make a "good-neighbor" agreement contingent on satisfaction of its urgent demand for their expulsion from Senegal. Are they going to become the sacrificial lambs on the altar of peace?

* Reaction to Diouf Speech on Vote Reform, Media

* Initiative Welcomed

91AF0743A Dakar SUD HEBDO in French
10 Jan 91 pp 1, 3

[Article by Babacar Toure: "Setting a Date"]

[Text] The Saint Sylvestre speech by the head of state has touched off exaggerated reactions from the actors on the Senegalese political set. The opposition has in a short

period of time gone from an attitude of total rejection to a more subtle position, or in other words a more political position, that leaves a door open to possible talks. As for certain Socialist Party circles, they attribute everything to the infallible genius of their leader presented to the public like a god who can do no wrong, much less have any of the faults of a mere mortal. This kind of speech, which is threatening to anyone who thinks and acts otherwise, and idealizes the "father of the nation"—doesn't the flatterer live at the expense of the person listening to him—is doubly dangerous.

Because it conceals the reality of a crisis that is actually more serious and has infected all sectors of society, national institutions, and the minds of the Senegalese people. It has also helped to isolate the head of state and cut him off from reality, while enabling the sycophants to hold onto their sinecures to the detriment of competence and what is in the general interest. "These people are only there for themselves," or in other words for their own selfish, petty interests, and, like ticks, they feed on the blood of others.

In the case in point, it is to be expected that a portion of the government will give way to panic and do everything possible to sabotage the idea of a dialogue as it was outlined. Past experience has given us ample proof of duplicity around us, enough to provide grounds for the distrust of the opposition and the skepticism of large sectors of the general public. However, we must note the willingness of certain Socialist Party and government leaders to move forward with reforms. It will require vigilance if the process is to be encouraged and any sidestepping or other manipulation is to be avoided.

The situation in our country is aggravated by the crisis of confidence experienced between the protagonists in the political debate and a frustrated and disillusioned public; this has largely contributed the wall of distrust that separates the Senegalese people.

We must not, however, despair of the ability of both sides to knock down the wall and create once again the conditions for renewed trust. To achieve this, the proposals of the head of state must be reduced to their true size. It is a matter of an initiative, and as such, it reflects a willingness to begin a process, the modalities and content of which must be discussed by and with those who are primarily involved, the political parties. The main thing is not to have personal ambitions, but ambitions for one's country.

Dialogue is first and foremost a state of mind, a method, a way of dealing with a given subject. Valéry said of Plato that he "played with the most flexible form of expression, namely dialogue."

In view of this, the opposition's justified apprehensions must be thrown into the basket of the dialogue. Before holding political talks, there must first be guarantees of sincerity, honesty, and results. Who better than the head of state is in a position, under the control of public

opinion, to give guarantees applicable to implementation of his latest initiative to date, to call for sincerity and a spirit of compromise, and to guarantee the foundations of institutions, laws and regulations, and democratic practices, while bearing in mind the aspirations of the Senegalese people, equal treatment, the rights of political parties, the need for frank and honest consultations with the people, and guaranteed universal suffrage and conditions for exercising it (the polling booth). The opposition is actually not asking for anything there that is not included among the constitutional prerogatives of the head of state. What is more, it is giving the head of state an opportunity not to act as leader of the party and thus to be in a position to make sure that things run smoothly and that the results are in the public interest, which should not be confused with the interest of a party or group of parties or individuals. The government as arbiter would therefore indicate with more certainty who should emerge from the ruins of the patrimonial state that has been so criticized. The negotiations begun today with the association of independent labor unions (UNSA) is an initial test in this regard.

As of 1 January 1991, Abdou Diouf has spent 10 years at the head of Senegal—after having been prime minister for 10 years. The ideas he has been propounding since 1981 have never been so timely. But times have changed.

Although in 1981 he benefited from strong support and a formidable state of grace, how many wasted opportunities and missed occasions there have been over the past decade! The person who strongly asserted that nothing would be as it was before must realize the inevitability of the changes demanded by the people here and elsewhere. It remains to be seen if he will find the means to promote and keep up with these changes.

As long as Senegal was on a little democratic island surrounded by an ocean of anachronistic dictatorships, it could still avoid them. Today, now that the autocrats of yesterday have been converted and forced to comply with the democratic demands of their people, the only way to make a difference and to stay in power is to undertake the essential institutional and political reforms that the Senegalese people is so keen on. The Saint Sylvestre initiative is a step in this direction. The party in power, like the opposition parties and all the segments of society, must endeavor to trip the switch essential for a new start, and to erase from people's minds the image of a Senegal as a "country of dialogue" where everybody is trying to deceive everybody else. Through "dialogue."

* PIT, RND Conditions

91AF0743B Dakar SUD HEBDO in French
10 Jan 91 p 3

[Article by Alain Agboton: "PIT and RND Looking Unhappy"]

[Text] Disappointment and suspicion seem to be the general reactions in opposition circles to Mr. Abdou

Diouf's new message. The PIT [Independence and Labor Party] and RND [Democratic National Rally] have expressed their disagreement—but they have no illusions.

"The speech by the president of the Republic (his end-of-year message) does not contain anything that could lead the Senegalese people to think that things will be better for them in 1991."

Aside from this generally negative opinion voiced last Saturday by the political bureau of the Independence and Labor Party on the subject of the content of Mr. Abdou Diouf's speech, and set forth in an official statement, the specific proposals in that speech were, however, the object of a detailed and keen analysis. For instance, the proposal to revise the electoral code was welcomed as "a clear and important retreat by the government," resulting from the strong determination and mobilization of "democrats of all kinds." As for a democratic dialogue, the PIT has put forward eight conditions which, in its opinion, will ensure "the best chance for the success of this procedure."

These conditions include, among other things, the effective association of all the political parties, the uncontested selection of competent, politically independent leaders to participate in it, an examination of all parts of the electoral code with no exceptions, and presentation of the conclusions of the meeting to the National Assembly, after they have been approved by the Executive.

One precaution emphasized by the PIT, namely that the Socialist Party [PS] should give its "public and solemn assurances" that the PS deputies will not oppose promulgation of the new electoral code, it being understood that aside from parity in the representation of all the parties, measures should be adopted to "neutralize any attempts at blockage" and maneuvers to delay events.

If these conditions are met, the PIT will do its utmost to "participate in a spirit of democracy, realism, and responsibility for the success of this plan."

The conditions outlined by the National Democratic Rally (RND) are not the same as those indicated by the PIT. For the dialogue to be "open, honest, and frank," a communique reads, it is enough for the "talks on democracy to be held in public, with the participation of all political parties, whatever form this dialogue should take—roundtable, debates using the media, etc." With regard to the electoral code, the RND is of the view that it is important to bear in mind that it will have "implications for the Constitution," an aspect that cannot "be avoided."

As for the Casamance problem, the need for a dialogue has been asserted by the RND and the PIT, both of which deplore the fact that "no serious and tangible guarantee" has been provided in conjunction with Mr. Abdou Diouf's peace offer.

On the issue of having a government mediator, the PIT, while acknowledging the "praiseworthy reasons for this," namely to improve relations between the administration and the public, is concerned that this will just prove to be "a useless diversion."

Finally, the PIT is pleased with the "good outlook" of the mediation regarding the Senegalese-Mauritanian conflict, while referring at the same time to the "troubles" plaguing our compatriots in the river valley. On the subject of the Gulf war, the PIT is in favor of a peaceful solution, and wonders whether, in the event of war, our troops would be protected against bacteriological weapons.

* Opposition Questions

91AF0743C Dakar WAL FADJRI in French
11-17 Jan 91 p 3

[Article by Abdourahmane Camara: "Everything Being Reopened"]

[Text] Ten days after President Abdou Diouf's message to the nation on 31 December, opposition leaders are still waiting to see the interior minister in charge of making the necessary contacts take the relay. This wait may seem long for those who are anxious to get a better idea of the thinking behind the outstretched hand of the head of state. As the people in the ranks of the opposition maintain: "Diouf's proposals were very vague and therefore do not answer all the questions that people are entitled to raise."

People do not really know at this point who is going to determine the rules of the game (date, modalities, and procedure for the consultation). Nor do they know who will be in charge of choosing the independent leader responsible for presiding over the committee. There was silence as well regarding the objective criteria to be used to select the chairman of the committee to revise the electoral code and the other legal experts who will be participating in this work. Finally, there is total ignorance on the fate reserved for a minority group or a party that attempts to obstruct the work. All these questions raised by the PIT [Independence and Labor Party] and the ones raised by CONACPO [National Conference of Opposition Party Leaders] on Diouf's intentions remain unanswered for the time being. Not even some unofficial contacts between opposition leaders and sectors of the government have managed to shed light on them.

The 9 January press conference by the government spokesman, Moustapha Ka, came at the right time then to lift at least a corner of the veil. The revision committee will not only look into "certain aspects" of the Code, as indicated in the 31 December message to the nation. All the articles will be "examined," the communications minister said, and added that "no subject is taboo." As regards the composition of this committee, Mr. Ka could not be specific: Consultations with the parties will clarify the issue, which is what he

confined his comments to. The same ambiguity surrounds the definition of its powers, which will depend on the discussions between the executive and political groups. As for an independent official to chair the committee, "the ideal would be for this person to be unanimously selected by the parties involved."

Conditions

By failing to determine in advance the plan to guide the work of the committee to revise the electoral code, the authorities are avoiding any offense to the sensitivities of the actors on the political scene. By leaving the parties concerned the responsibility of devising the shape of the "second" roundtable themselves, the government is showing its desire to be transparent. This will certainly not be enough to knock down the wall of distrust that justifies all the prior conditions that the opposition has imposed on any joint action. Of these conditions, some—and which ones have not been spelled out—are regarded as unacceptable, because, in the words of Moustapha Ka, "you cannot question the good faith of the president of the Republic."

The extremely cautious attitude adopted up to now by Diouf is not without reason. In the event that CON-ACPO boycotts the negotiations, he will not be held responsible in the eyes of the world, particularly. All the pledges he is making will enable him to win points in the event most of the opposition does not participate. Moreover, to quote the government spokesman: "[The government] is determined to move forward. If CONACPO stages a boycott, we will assume our responsibility to improve the code." Diouf has made a commitment "and he will not back down." If the hat fits....

In the answers given by the minister of culture and communications during his press conference last Wednesday, some comments call to mind President Diouf's outburst after CONACPO's demonstrations on 14 November. Of course Mr. Ka does not compare the caution of the opposition to "childishness" but rather to "sulking." And this is the same thing after all. This most likely reveals a certain state of mind created by a feeling of superiority that is not suitable for leaders doomed to come to terms with an immovable opposition.

It is time that the attitude of the ruling party give way to a spirit of openness and respect for others. Without this change, people will continue to speak with forked tongues and create feelings of...resentment.

As for the High Council for Radio and Television, it will be dealing only with political issues, according to Mr. Ka. It will for instance be responsible for monitoring the publication of communiques by the parties and covering their meetings, press conferences, and congresses. It will therefore be dealing only with politicians, and there is fear that there will be a duplication of effort. Until it is in place, will the government media be covering the 19 January march to be staged by the opposition to protest the cost of living? And will this march be authorized, as an additional sign of Diouf's desire for dialogue?

* Minister on Scope of Reform

91AF0743D Dakar SUD HEBDO in French
10 Jan 91 p 3

[Text] Since his appointment as minister of culture and communications on 27 March 1990, Mr. Moustapha Ka had his second press conference as government spokesman.

The minister's second press conference was organized to relate and explain to the public the meaning and scope of the latest proposals by the head of state which, in his view, are part of a plan to ease the tensions on the national political scene. According to the communications minister's report, three initiatives were outlined in the address to the nation by the head of state on 31 December 1990.

The first consisted in setting up an independent national committee chaired by a jurist known for his competence in law and his moral and intellectual abilities to examine the electoral law, on the basis of extensive consultations with the opposition.

The second involved an appeal "to our brothers in the South who have strayed," who are involved in a dangerous undertaking that is jeopardizing national unity, and finally the third initiative had to do with the government's setting up a High Council for Radio and Television. On the first point (examination of the Electoral Code), the minister of culture and communications told the press that the head of state was intent on initiating extensive consultations with the opposition, through his interior minister, with a view to setting up a national committee "to be chaired by an independent person, recognized for his abilities as a jurist and his intellectual integrity." This committee would review the most controversial aspects of the Electoral Code.

Analyzing the opposition's reactions to the initiatives of the president of the Republic, the minister implied that it should not be too hard to overcome the current "sulkingness" of the opposition. Mr. Ka feels that a dialogue must be initiated so that "everyone [the opposition and the majority] can come to an agreement" so that the Electoral Code can be improved. And Mr. Ka referred to several litigious points in the Electoral Code: use of polling booths (secret ballots), identification of the voter, presence of the opposition in the election process, etc. However, if this committee to be set up is to confine its activities to examining only the points regarded as controversial, at least one opposition party has clearly said that it wants no part of it. In its view, there has to be a total reform of the election law. Mr. Ka has indicated in this regard that the work of the future committee could touch on everything, if need be. No subject is taboo. In other words, the entire Electoral Code is on the "negotiating" table.

As for the "second initiative" of the head of state, the "appeal to our brothers in the South who have strayed,"

the communications minister said that he was referring to everyone: civilians, political groups, and so forth.

Finally, with regard to the "third initiative" of the head of state, the creation of the High Council for Radio and Television, Mr. Ka believes that this decision stems from the government's desire to strengthen pluralism in our country, by setting up a structure in charge of guaranteeing the right to express all political opinions through the government media (radio and television). In the beginning, this High Council would deal strictly with political issues—or at least issues with a political basis. The government monopoly over the media is here to stay for some time, in the opinion of the communications minister. Any actual liberalization of the media, involving the creation of private radio and television stations, can only come in the long run. According to Mr. Ka, it is premature for Senegal to consider this.

Turning to other matters during his press conference, Minister Ka implied, in connection with the journalists' collective bargaining agreement signed last month, that this could be implemented only in a "gradual and realistic way." According to the minister, the financial difficulties of press agencies (official as well as private ones) left them with no other option.

The minister responded to many other questions raised by the press relating to the situation prevailing in the country: the government's financial difficulties, the management crisis of the Senegalese Press Agency, the crisis of the Senegalese film industry, etc.

Sierra Leone

Further Reports on Skirmishes at Liberian Border

Momoh Accuses Taylor, Burkina Faso

AB0204212291 Freetown Domestic Service in English
2000 GMT 2 Apr 91

[Text] The president, Dr. Joseph Saidou Momoh, today informed the nation of what he described as ugly incidents which have occurred and continue to occur in the eastern province of Sierra Leone. Dr. Momoh recalled the incident of March the 23d in which rebels of the National Patriotic Front of Liberia [NPFL] attacked and invaded the border towns of Bomaru and Singa, killing 13 people, including a major and a lieutenant. The NPFL force rebels numbering between 40 and 60 men retreated into Liberia following a brief exchange of fire with reinforcement of the Sierra Leone military forces, he added.

The head of state reported that on March 27, NPFL rebels in groups of three, numbering 100, attacked and invaded the international market town of Koindu and completely took over the town. Armed with AK-47's, heavy machine guns, and rocket launchers, the president explained, the rebels continued their advance and attack on Thursday, March 28, attacking Buedu customs post

with a renewed strength of two battalions drawn from their base in Liberia, killing innocent and peaceful citizens and causing immense damage to property. The president said that the plunder was (?finally) halted by the effective and successful counterattack of the Sierra Leone military forces, who routed the rebels and took over Koindu and Buedu, inflicting heavy casualties on the rebels.

Commending the Armed Forces for valiantly defending the territorial integrity of the country, Dr. Momoh assured the nation that with his government's measure of sending sufficient reinforcements headed by an operational commander to the area, he was confident that no more rebel activity will be allowed to recur. President Momoh also commended the local population in the area, including chiefs, tribal authorities, women, and youth, who had supported and rallied round the nation's forces to forestall the rebel invasion.

On (?vital) information obtained from captured rebels, President Momoh revealed that all the rebels involved were members of Charles Taylor's NPFL under the command, direction, and control of Charles Taylor, that Burkinabe soldiers dressed in blue overalls with red berets operated side by side with the rebels, that a few white mercenaries were (?among them), and that a fighter-bomber painted white with an arrow was in the possession of the rebels in their operation, while two other planes were being expected from Burkina Faso.

President Momoh appealed to all Sierra Leoneans to show understanding and give maximum support and cooperation to government and the Armed Forces to prevent anarchy and protect Sierra Leone's territorial integrity.

Answering a variety of questions from the press, President Momoh commended objective reporting of the event by the BBC stringer, but refuted part of the reports that Sierra Leone soldiers had occupied Lofa County in Liberia. Sierra Leone, the president maintained, is a nation that respects and adheres to the norms of international law and would not easily violate the integrity of another state on the slightest provocation.

The force commander, Major General Tarawalli, introduced the president's topic to the press, while Alhaji Saramadi Kaba moved the vote of thanks.

Captured Attackers NPFL Members

AB0304092291 London BBC World Service in English
0630 GMT 3 Apr 91

[From the "Network Africa" program]

[Text] Sierra Leone's President Joseph Momoh gave a news conference in Freetown yesterday evening about the latest incidents on the border with Liberia. He said two battalions from the NPFL [National Patriotic Front of Liberia] rebel force in Liberia, led by Charles Taylor, had crossed into the border town of Koindu but he said

the Sierra Leone Army counterattacked, driving back the NPFL rebels and capturing several of them, including a commander. They have been brought to the capital, Freetown, he said.

The border clash comes as unconfirmed claims of antigovernment activity inside Sierra Leone are being made by a hitherto unknown group. Well, last night, on the line to Freetown, Carolyn Dempster asked minister of state for presidential affairs, Dr. A.K. Turay, if the captured attackers were really members of the NPFL.

[Begin recording] [Turay] Yes. From interviews conducted with them and their statements, we are absolutely certain.

[Dempster] Have you been able to gain from them the purpose of these incursions?

[Turay] They are a bit confused about the purpose, but we are just certain that they are members of Charles Taylor's NPFL, and what they want to gain, we don't know yet.

[Dempster] Dr. Turay, can you say whether the fighting is still going on in Lofa County, or whether the fighting is still going on on the border?

[Turay] There is no fighting at the moment, and the president said it is not true that our soldiers have entered Lofa County at the moment, although we reserve the right, he said, to protect our borders as effectively as possible.

[Dempster] But Dr. Turay, I wonder if you could clarify the situation for us. We received a call from a man who calls himself Corporal Foday Sankoh, and he claims to be behind these attacks and the fighting that has been taking place on the border. Can you verify this. Is this man involved? Have any of the troops that have been captured....[Dempster changes thought] are they Sierra Leonean?

[Turay] No, there is no Sierra Leonean that has been captured from the troops. No Sierra Leonean at all, and none of the rebels has mentioned such a name, so we really don't think that this so-called Foday Sankoh is involved in this. It may just mention political and military gain, but none of the captured persons has mentioned the name Foday Sankoh. [sentence as heard] None of them is Sierra Leonean.

[Dempster] And none of them have mentioned, or made any mention of an organization which calls itself the Revolutionary United Front?

[Turay] No, none of them has mentioned anything about a Revolutionary United Front.

[Turay] Dr. Turay, we understand that there are, in fact, several Sierra Leoneans who are being trained in Charles Taylor's camps in Liberia. Do you know anything about this?

[Turay] Well, we have heard such rumors but as far as I know, I have not got any evidence to confirm it, but the rumors are persistent.

[Dempster] And from what the president said yesterday afternoon at the press conference, would it appear that the trouble has now ended, or is it still going on?

[Turay] Well, on our side we do not assume that it has been ended. There is nothing happening at the moment. We do not intend to underrate anything. At the moment, there is nothing happening. We hope it has ended but if it has not ended, our troops are fully on the alert to protect Sierra Leonean territory.

[Dempster] Would you like to give us some idea as to why, perhaps, the supporters of Charles Taylor are coming into Sierra Leone?

[Turay] Well, I don't know. There are many theories, there are many theories. There might be....[Turay changes thought] one theory is that it is a concerted effort directed....[Turay changes thought] commanded directly by Charles Taylor. Another theory is that these men have been abandoned for so long that now they have to go ravaging into other areas for food and to sustain a living but actually, I cannot say which of these reasons is the real reason for the time being. [end recording]

Troops 'Will Never Cross' Border

AB0204180491 Paris AFP in English 1749 GMT
2 Apr 91

[Text] Freetown, April 2 (AFP)—Sierra Leone troops will never cross their border to attack Liberian rebels in their home territory. "neither invade their sanctuary," Sierra Leone Armed Forces chief Mohamed Tarawalli said Monday.

"We are only interested in protecting our territorial sovereignty and safeguarding peace and security along the border," Major-General Tarawalli told a news conference here.

His comments came as rumors were circulating that Sierra Leone troops would cross into Liberia's northern Lofa County to prepare to engage Charles Taylor's National Patriotic Front (NPFL) rebels in an all-out attack following recent forays by the rebels into Sierra Leone villages. In the latest clash, Sierra Leone forces killed 19 suspected NPFL rebels at the weekend after some 400 guerrillas crossed into Sierra Leone, according to diplomatic sources.

The rebels had carried out surprise raids on the market town of Koindu, 450 miles (730 kilometers) north of here, and a nearby village. Bendu, where they briefly seized a police post and a customs office. The sources said the rebels came under heavy fire from the Sierra Leone Army and retreated back into Liberia. The army reportedly suffered no casualties.

The Armed Forces chief said Tuesday that any armed incursion into Sierra Leone by NPFL forces "will not be tolerated and will be swiftly repulsed." Maj.-Gen. Tarawalli also warned the NPFL not to continue attacks on border villages, as "the patience of Sierra Leoneans is wearing thin." He added that all roads leading to Sierra Leone's eastern border with Liberia have been "demilitarized."

Diplomatic sources said Tuesday that soldiers throughout the West African country have been put on general alert and the travelers were being searched for arms at several military checkpoints.

The government sent some 2,000 soldiers to the border to beef up patrols following an NPFL attack last week on another border town, Kailahun, during which 11 civilians and three military officers were killed. Six Liberian rebels were captured after the Kailahun raid, while four others, including a woman, were captured in nearby Malema. They were brought to Freetown early Friday under heavy military guard.

In Monrovia, Liberia's interim Defense Minister Edward Kessely told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE on Tuesday that Sierra Leone has the right to send troops across the border into Liberia to protect its citizens and territory against rebel attacks. Dr. Kessely was reacting to reports that Sierra Leone troops had occupied part of Liberia's northwestern Lofa County in pursuit of Mr. Taylor's NPFL rebels. Diplomatic sources in the Sierra Leonean capital Freetown said the rebels attacked villages across the border from Lofa County at least twice since last week.

Dr. Kessely told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE the Sierra Leone authorities could go into "hot pursuit" of NPFL rebels to protect their citizens. He described the rebel insurgents as "thugs, looters, rapists and murderers" and said the alleged occupation of Liberia by Sierra Leone troops did not in any way damage relations between the neighboring countries.

"We are confident that Sierra Leone has no territorial ambition on Liberia," he said, adding the action was taken "because our neighbour was provoked."

NPFL defense spokesman Tom Woewiyu said he hoped that the Sierra Leone troops had not occupied Liberian territory.

Ambassador Joshua Iroha of the 16-nation Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) which deployed peacekeeping troops in Liberia last August, said the report of clashes at the border between rebels and Sierra Leone troops was a challenge to Mr. Taylor "who says he is president of Liberia, to put a stop to his men."

Opposition Front Claims Responsibility

AB0204193291 London BBC World Service in English
1709 GMT 2 Apr 91

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] Just about now, Sierra Leone's President Joseph Momoh is holding a press conference in Freetown to talk about a series of border incidents that have been taking place over the past week or so. There have been a number of attacks on Sierra Leonean villages on the border with Liberia. The Sierra Leonean Government has laid the blame squarely at the feet of Charles Taylor's National Patriotic Front [of Liberia—NPFL] rebels and says it has captured a number of them to prove it. We will bring you reports on what President Momoh said as soon as we get it.

Well, it was perhaps almost inevitable that we were called today by a Sierra Leonean, (Kopro Fode Sanko). He called us three weeks ago saying he was a member of the underground Revolutionary United Front in Sierra Leone and he threatened an armed rebellion if President Momoh's APC [All People's Congress] government did not set up democracy and then step down. There have, of course, been allegations that Charles Taylor was training Sierra Leoneans amongst his NPFL rebels in Liberia. (Kopro Sanko) claimed he was calling from Sierra Leone and denied the involvement of Charles Taylor in the attacks, as he explained to Robin White:

[Begin recording] [(Sanko)] I want to make this clear to the world and to the leaders in Sierra Leone, that what is happening, the attacks on 16th and on 22d and 23d at Kailahun, is my own Revolutionary United Front. The father of all battles has started.

[White] Now the Sierra Leonean Government has claimed that all these attacks have come across the border from Liberia. They have been carried out by Charles Taylor's men and what is more, they have captured some of them to prove it.

[(Sanko)] They will never prove it. There is nothing... [changes thought] no NPFL rebel, but this is Revolutionary United Front rebels.

[White] And how many of you are there under arms?

[(Sanko)] Under arms? Oh no, Robin, this is against the military law.

[White] And where are these people under arms?

[(Sanko)] Look, I am right deep in the country in Sierra Leone. I have my base there.

[White] Mr (Sanko), you cannot be right deep in the country in Sierra Leone because it is not possible to make telephone calls from there.

[(Sanko)] Look, I have my private communications, Robin. You know how many years I have been operating? What are you talking [about]? Look, you know how many years? I can speak wherever I like to speak in the world.

[White] Can I put it to you that in fact you are calling from Charles Taylor's telephone in Gbarnga?

[(Sanko)] What do you mean? What do you mean? How can you prove it?

[White] I cannot, but it sounds very like the quality of his telephone.

[(Sanko)] Oh no, my dear friend! Look, I have my own communications. What do you mean? Now, I am telling [words indistinct].

[White, interrupting] Yes, then what exactly is your struggle?

[(Sanko)] Look, my struggle is against the APC. We are tired of electing thieves into office and we will fight till the old ugly head of the APC (?rears) no more.

[White] Mr (Sanko), President Momoh, as I understand, is just about to agree to multiparty politics in Sierra Leone. So what is this point of your own fight?

[(Sanko)] The APC will never bring any democracy or democratic change in Sierra Leone. (?Only) the Revolutionary United Front of Sierra Leone will bring democratic change in Sierra Leone. The APC, no. [end recording]

Well, Elizabeth Blunt, formerly the BBC's correspondent in West Africa, has been in the thick of the Liberian conflict and she is just back from Liberia and Sierra Leone. Robin White asked her just how seriously (Kopro Sanko) should be taken:

[Begin recording] [Blunt] Well, one thing certainly, even if he says he is calling from the depths of Sierra Leone, he is certainly not calling on the Sierra Leone telephone system. It is not normally possible to make international calls anywhere outside the capital, Freetown. Indeed, even in Freetown, you have to go to the telecommunications office to do it. So he is calling either from outside the country or by the sound of it I would have thought on a satellite phone very similar to the one that Charles Taylor and his people use when they call us up from Liberia.

[White] But would you believe that he might be involved in these attacks on Sierra Leone?

[Blunt] Yes, he might well be involved. I have spoken to a young man, a Sierra Leonean who has been on Taylor's side of the lines, who has been in Gbarnga. He was allowed to move fairly freely because he was a musician with a Liberian band, and in Gbarnga, he had met a group of young Sierra Leoneans who are Taylor's people but were being trained as a separate group, and he met

their leader, who they called (Pamolai) whose... [changes thought] He said his name was (Fode). He did not know this man's other name, but it certainly tallies with all the descriptions of (Fode Sanko). They could well be involved in the border raids or it could just be any group of Taylor's people that are very far from Gbarnga, far from the center up in that part of the country. It could have been a group that is operating more less independently.

[White] So if this man is somehow connected with Charles Taylor, what is Charles Taylor's game at the moment, do you think?

[Blunt] Well, it is very much in Charles Taylor's interest to try and break up the main opposition to him, which is ECOMOG [Economic Community of West African States Cease-Fire Monitoring Group], the group of West African countries with troops in the force, and to try and pry individual countries away from ECOMOG. Now Sierra Leone is a very obvious target. Sierra Leone is poor. It is not militarily very strong. It has got internal and economic problems. It has got potential for a lot of resentment against the government and it is absolutely crucial to ECOMOG, because Freetown is the army's rear base. There is no way that Nigeria, Ghana, and the other countries could mount the operation in Liberia unless they could continue to use the port and the airport facilities in Freetown. And so if Taylor can frighten the Sierra Leonean Government sufficiently to make them pull out of ECOMOG or remove the facilities, that will obviously be a big advantage to him.

[White] Might this be Charles Taylor's last desperate throw?

[Blunt] This is very possible. You never quite know how much of what he says and his apparent strength is sheer bluff. Not all of it is bluff. He has definitely been rearmed in the last few months. There were big deliveries of weapons in December by road through the Ivory Coast, more deliveries in January by air at Robertsfield. I am told he got a lot of artillery, including things that people refer to as forty barrels, which must be some kind of rocket launcher. We know he has got a lot more equipment. Whether he has got the men to use it is another matter and whether the people on his side of the lines are really behind him, and the whole rash of defections there has been at the conference, the fact that there were thousands of people apparently trying to get down to Monrovia if the frontline were open, rather suggests that his people are melting away, even if he has got the equipment. [end recording]

Togo

Government, FAR Meet on Student Issues

AB0204154591 Dakar PANA in English 1427 GMT
2 Apr 91

[Text] Lome, 2 April (ATOP/PANA)—A national forum will be held in Lome from 10 to 20 April, to debate on

new political organisation for Togo, according to a statement by a joint commission of government representatives and the Front of the Associations for Renewal (FAR). The statement issued Monday said the forum will focus on the general situation as well as on the political, economic and socio-cultural life of the country with the view to defining new state institutions. A new draft constitution and the modalities for the establishment of new political institutions, notably, a government and an interim legislative assembly, would be discussed, it said.

Set up on 18 March, following a meeting between President Gnassingbe Eyadema and the FAR, which is pressing for political plurality, the commission had examined the problems facing the country's students when it met on 21 and 31 March. During the meeting, the commission recommended the granting of autonomous status to the university, the recognition of students unions, and the dissolution of those among them which have tribal or regional inclinations. It also decided in favour of the establishment of a national human rights commission in the wake of the spate of violence in the university campus and other educational institutions.

Students' Grievance Commission Issues Communiqué

*AB0204120691 Lome Domestic Service in French
1230 GMT 1 Apr 91*

[Communiqué issued by the Technical Commission on Students' Grievances in Lome on 29 March]

[Text] Following the meeting of the student movements and the Front of Associations for Renewal, FAR, with the head of state, a technical commission charged with examining students' grievances has been set up. It is composed as follows:

Chairman, Koffi Edoh, minister of technical education and professional training; deputy chairman, Tchaa-Kozah Tchelim, minister of national education and scientific research; rapporteur, (Nicoue Broom), FAR representative; Kazaro Takou, representative of Togo Higher Education Union, SEST; Ayayi Kossi, chairman of the Togo National Movement of Togolese Students and Apprentices; Kodjovi Kloutse, adviser to the Student Movement for Democratic Struggle, MELD.

Other members are: Comlanvi Seddoh, rector of the University of Benin, Togo; Kossi Kekeh, member of Benin University Council; Attah Ajavon, FAR representative; Ayayi Apedoh Amah, SEST representative; Akou-fouelou Bodjona, general secretary of AETB [expansion unknown]; Comlan Aboli, chairman of the University Organization for Democratic Struggle in Togo, OULDT; Vignimenou Sokpor, general secretary of the Youth Reflection and Action Group for Democracy, GRAD; Komi Woblewou Sakatis, chairman of the Student Front for Democratic Struggle, FELD.

After thoroughly examining the various points of the students' material grievances, the commission has agreed on:

1. abolishing the compulsory annual deduction of 2,000 CFA francs from students' scholarships for the AETB;
2. authorizing all students with and without scholarships to have access to university restaurants. In addition, students from the civil service may also have access to the university restaurants subject to a special tariff;
3. the need to increase scholarships as well as university and school bursaries; the need to ensure better distribution of these scholarships and bursaries according to defined criteria;
4. the need to remedy the shortage of textbooks at the University of Benin's central library, and to increase the number of transportation vehicles with the creation of new bus service routes;
5. encouraging the initiative of the ongoing construction of university residences and teaching facilities as well as the pedagogical training of University of Benin's lecturing staff;
6. speeding up the extension of the Faculties of Medicine and Science, of the (?Agronomic Science College), and of the ESI [expansion unknown], the construction of the Faculty of Humanities, and equipping high schools with laboratories and libraries;
7. The pressing need to establish an unambiguous climate at all levels.

On behalf of students, the commission proposes:

1. half scholarships for needy and deserving first year students;
2. the maintenance of the current rate of scholarship—21,600 CFA francs—for second year students;
3. that all third and fourth year students enjoy full scholarship, that is a 50 percent increase in the current rate, namely, 32,400 CFA francs;
4. that the administrative central garage, in conjunction with the rectorial authorities, put at the disposal of students at least four 30-seater buses for the 2 April 1991 school reopening, pending delivery of the large capacity buses promised by the government;
5. that contacts be made with the private sector to develop the student transportation system at examined prices in the near future;
6. that the bursary granted students without scholarships currently standing at 40,000 CFA francs be increased to 80,000 CFA francs;
7. that all recognized student associations be allowed to take part in the decisions relating to campus life.

For high schools students, the commission proposes that:

1. the bursaries granted needy students, which currently stands at 10,000 CFA francs, be increased to 20,000 CFA francs;
2. the Directorate of Technical and Professional Training rapidly contact the private sector to organize the transportation of students of the Eyadema Technical High School. The commission recommends that a

national debate on education and training be organized in the near future. In this regard, it would be required to set up within three months a preparatory committee by the ministers in charge of education and training.

Issued in Lome on 29 March 1991.

[Signed] The Technical Commission.

University Students Boycott Classes in Lome

AB0204170291 Paris AFP in French 1402 GMT
2 Apr 91

[Text] Lome, 2 Apr (AFP)—Students at Lome's University of Benin and at the technical high school did not return to classes this morning after the Easter holidays, according to an AFP reporter in Lome. No incidents have been reported. The students are calling for information about one of their number, Dindigoué Nayone, who disappeared more than a year ago at the start of a protest at the university.

The authorities claim that this student left for Chad. President Gnassingbe Eyadema promised last week that he would be brought back to the country and student leaders were satisfied with this promise, but the leaders were not followed by their union members. The students left the campus at the leaders' request, however, to avoid any incidents.

The technical high school students, who had called for the departure of their headmaster, are protesting the appointment of an acting headmaster who they claim is a friend of the previous one.

Yesterday evening, the student organization that supports the regime and one of the opposition leaders called, together with the minister of technical education, for the resumption of classes. Classes were suspended in mid-March by the authorities following demonstrations. This suspension was followed by Easter holidays, which lasted for one week.

Education Minister Speaks at School Reopening

AB0204174691 Lome Domestic Service in French
1230 GMT 2 Apr 91

[Address to the nation by Koffi Edoh, minister of technical education and professional training, on the eve of 1990-1991 academic year's third quarter, in Lome on 1 April—recorded]

[Text] Dear students and pupils, teachers, parents: It is unusual to see a member of the government in charge of education and training address you on the eve of the resumption of classes for the third quarter. But the situation in which we parted last 15 March led us to this decision.

Our school and university youth were traumatized and divided between those who wanted to continue their normal schooling and university activities and those who decided to go on strike. In our capital as well as in some cities in the interior of our country, educational institutions were paralyzed by acts of violence. The Togolese Government, the Front of Associations for Renewal, and student associations capitalized on the second quarter's vacation period to organize a dialogue centering on everyone's major concerns.

All the sides involved frankly spoke their minds and were able to assess the efforts made by the government in the sectors in question before thoroughly examining the grievances expressed by the student and pupil associations. The proposals concerning all these grievances were accepted by the government despite the economic difficulties caused by the fall in the sales price of our raw materials. Some of these proposals are already being implemented. Others, mainly those relating to scholarships, will be implemented only as of commencement of the 1991-1992 school year. It is worth noting that the decisions relating to (?scholarships) were made by taking into account the proposals made by the student representatives themselves and were fully accepted by the commission and the government.

I call on the students, pupils, teachers from all sectors and at all levels, as well as parents to return to the fundamental values of seriousness in work, discipline, and respect for one's neighbor, which are the riches of our people and youth. Let them all buckle down to work and make decisive efforts so that the six months of sacrifices will be preserved.

I insist in particular on the responsibilities of parents and teachers in this decisive period in the life of our school and university institutions. Each of us should make extra efforts and place the interests of the pupils and students above any other considerations.

As for pupils and students themselves, they should bear in mind that thanks to the efforts they are making today, they will be able to ensure the difficult takeover in the years ahead. I wish you all a good resumption of classes.

END OF

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